

BR gets signal to electrify if more jobs are shed

By Michael Bailey and David Felton

The Government is not prepared to give an unconditional commitment to railway electrification, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, told the House of Commons yesterday.

Instead he is inviting British Rail to submit a 10-year programme of schemes for electrification of potentially profitable main line routes, where it is clear that returns could justify investment.

"The approval of each successive electrification project will be conditional on the profitability of the investment in question, and on the achievement of necessary improvement in productivity," Mr Fowler said.

Mr Fowler did not say what financial commitment the Government might make to carrying out such programmes, but said their cost would be taken into account in setting British Rail's external finance limit and investment level for the year in which the scheme was met. He did allow an extra £53m to cushion the closure of collected and delivered parcels.

BR has already said that without sharply increased investment—and extra £36m a year for electrification and £72m for associated rolling stock, signalling and track—the railways will go into rapid decline by 1983 and 3,000 miles of track will become unusable by 1990.

Mr Fowler's statement was received angrily by Mr Albert Booth, opposition spokesman on transport, who asked why the minister had ignored the joint recommendations of his own department and British Rail to make a specific commitment to extensive electrification.

However, Sir Peter Parker, BR chairman, welcomed Mr Fowler's statement as a "new fighting chance for railways". He said: "I have never and never will ask for money for electrification unless we can see that the investment will produce a good return."

While the country went through hard times, Mr Fowler's statement amounted to a "concrete declaration" of faith in rail as a future industry—a 10-year view. "It is a long time since anybody has taken that long a look at our affairs," Sir Peter said.

Although last night it was clear that Sir Peter was optimistic that the minister's statement could be translated into a new programme for electrification, it was unclear whether the Government's plans had won over the rail unions.

Union leaders left a two-hour meeting with Mr Fowler and Sir Peter refusing to comment. It was left to the BR chairman to explain that there was a united purpose to get the programme moving as quickly as possible.

A brief statement after the meeting of the Rail Council, BR's top consultative body, with Mr Fowler, said that the Government's announcement had been

"positive" and that the council was determined to put the plan into action.

Sir Peter conceded that there were "combustible issues" which had to be discussed with the unions such as manning levels, more flexible work procedures, a reduction in overtime working and the introduction of new rosters.

He praised the unions' co-operation in reducing BR's manning levels by 7,500 over the last year and said: "We are all agreed that the parliamentary process needs translating into something more definite, into terms of actual priorities for electrification and a timetable."

Senior BR officials are to meet representatives from the Department of Transport today to begin work on producing a timetable and defining the priorities in the programme.

Earlier in the Commons, Mr Stephen Ross, Liberal MP for the Isle of Wight, had described the announcement as a "desperately disappointing statement" which would lead to more unemployment, the break-up of existing teams of electrification workers, and a higher cost which schemes were eventually carried out.

But Mr Fowler insisted that the Government was committing itself to a programme over 10 years of certain conditions to assure the future of the railway which he "passionately believed in".

The Government's decision, he said, was taken at a time when British Rail's financial position was giving serious cause for concern, with passenger business down £52m on forecast, and freight £27m. Freight train drivers were travelling on average only 30 miles a day and there was great scope for improved productivity before any investment.

Transport 2000, the environmental pressure group, said afterwards that Mr Fowler's statement was short-sighted and a catastrophe for British Rail.

"Piecemeal schemes for electrification will not achieve the system-wide economies of scale which come from a rolling programme," a spokesman said.

BR's plans to electrify the Reading to London line (Our Reading Correspondent writes).

The stations would be paid for at first by the county council, which would expect to be reimbursed later by British Rail from increased fares.

Council planners say the stations are needed to cope with population increases east of Reading; but British Rail cannot afford to build them. All the stations will be on the Southern Region's Reading to Waterloo line.

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Communists at door of French Cabinet

From Ian Murray
Paris, June 22

The French Socialist Party is poised to dominate French politics for the next five years. So complete was its victory in yesterday's legislative elections that President Mitterrand could well feel strong and confident enough to allow Communists into his next Government.

With the results of only three of the 491 constituencies still to come from the overseas territories, the Socialist Party and its close allies, the left Radicals (MRG), already have 285 seats and the Communists 44. There are also four independents of the left who will support them.

This compares with 117 seats for the Socialists and their allies and 96 for the Communists in the old Assembly.

The representation of the old governing majority has been almost halved. The neo-Gaullist RPR movement has 83 seats instead of 150, the Christian UDF has 64 instead of 122 and even the number of right-wing independents has dropped from 12 to eight.

This majority gives the Socialists an absolute mandate to introduce their programme, with or without the help of any of their allies.

What President Mitterrand has to decide is where it will be safer to have the Communists—inside or outside his Government.

Talks about the possibility of Communist Ministers began at the Communist headquarters in Paris this afternoon. The Socialist side was led by M Lionel Jospin, the party's first secretary.

Mr Georges Marchais, their secretary general.

The Communists' desire to join the Government was made plain within minutes of the first computer predictions of the evening. Thenceforward they were dispatched to every television and radio station to relay the message—and M Marchais said that the Communists were prepared to accept the principle of collective Cabinet responsibility.

In fact Communist leaders were almost tripping over one another in their anxiety to say how closely their view and that of the Socialists coincided. Even on the question of foreign affairs, where President Mitterrand has taken a particular firm anti-Soviet stance, the Communists indicated there could be an accommodation.

President Mitterrand is under some pressure from within his own party to agree to a Communist-led Government, particularly from the left-wing Ceres group headed by M Jean-Pierre Chevènement.

They were unhappy that he was not prepared to call on Socialists to stand down in the new railway stations between Reading and London (Our Reading Correspondent writes).

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Three signs of trouble: John McEnroe up to his antics during his match with Tom Gullikson at Wimbledon yesterday. McEnroe won in straight sets.

McEnroe's temper boils over again at sunny Wimbledon

John McEnroe was in trouble again on the first day of Wimbledon yesterday, writes Sydney Friskin. During his match with Tom Gullikson, which he won in straight sets, he abused the umpire and called the referee a four-letter name. He also broke a racket, acquired two penalty points, and will be recommended for a fine by the referee, Fred Hovley.

McEnroe found fault with the umpire, Edward James, because he declined to reverse a number of linesmen's decisions with which McEnroe disagreed. During the second

set he deliberately stood on his racket and broke it, and two games later crashed the replacement against a chair. Soon afterwards, he repudiated two women spectators for applauding Gullikson. Elsewhere, three seeded players were beaten. The big surprise was the defeat of Ivan Lendl, of Czechoslovakia (No 4), who lost in five sets to Charlie Fancourt, of Australia. The other fallen seeds were Victor Pecci, of Paraguay, and Yannick Noah, of France. Ilie Nastase, of Romania, lost an exciting five-set match to Alexander Mayer.

The best British success was the victory of John Lloyd, who beat Phil Dent, of Australia, in five sets. Lloyd, who is married to the former Chris Evert, said: "My wife has told me my victory means as much to her as winning Wimbledon herself." Christopher Mottram also reached the second round, beating Robin Drysdale in four sets. The renaissance of the Wimbledon drama began on a glorious afternoon with a supporting cast of more than 28,000, a record attendance for the first day. The figure on the corresponding day last year was 26,691.

Few people could recall a start as sunny as this, the temperature rising into the mid-seventies. In the search for lighter clothing many mini-dresses were recovered from the dark recesses of wardrobes and several gentlemen arrived somewhat scantily clad. In an effort to restore decorum on the centre court, during the match between Bjorn Borg and Peter Rennett, an announcement was made requesting those who had taken their shirts off to put them on again. The announcement, however, passed unheeded on the outside courts. Report, page 10



Peckham victim had yearned for Africa

By Craig Seton

Fenton Ogbogo, the young man stabbed to death by three white youths in south London was desperately unhappy living in England, and was waiting to return to his native Nigeria with his family later this year.

Last night, two days after his 25-year-old son's murder in Peckham, Mr Isiah Ogbogo, who came to Britain from Nigeria in 1964, said: "I have lost a child because of the racial trouble in this country. Why should somebody kill a quiet, innocent boy like him? I want the whole world to know about my bitterness."

Mr Ogbogo, aged 47, an electrical engineer who has five other children living in England, said: "Fenton came here four years after me but he always told me he did not like it here. He wanted us to go back to Nigeria but I told him to hold on until I sold our house and then we could go back together as a family."

He intends to have his son cremated and take his ashes back to their original home in endel State, Nigeria. Mr Ogbogo said: "I wish I could afford to take his body back. That is what he would have wanted."

Mr Ogbogo, who lives with his second wife and his children at Nunhead Grove, in Peckham, told how he last saw Fenton, who was unemployed, on Friday but assumed he had gone to north London to stay with friends where he used to live and work.

Yesterday, after reading about the stabbing of an unidentified black man in a fish bar in the Old Kent Road on Saturday night, he went to the police and discovered that it was his eldest son.

"I still cannot believe it. I am so shocked," Mr Ogbogo said. "It is these skinheads with their hatred of black people. That is why my child died. We have a lot of English people living in Nigeria but we do not kill them."

He dismissed police reports that his son might have tried to commit suicide shortly before he was murdered on Saturday.

"He was a very quiet boy but he was not depressed. It is rubbish to say he tried to kill himself. Nor would he have got involved in a fight. He was just not like that."

He described how Fenton had attended local schools in Peckham and then technical college and became keenly interested in electronics. He moved to Willesden in north London to work off a company

assembling computers but lost his job last year.

"I told him to come back to live with us on the returned just before Christmas. He did not have many friends in this area and was always very quiet, just sitting by the window looking out."

"I told him to make friends and to get a girlfriend but he wanted to wait until he was back in Nigeria for that," Mr Ogbogo said.

Last night Mr Ogbogo was together with his family at their home in mourning. He has two other sons, Benson, aged 17, and Richard, aged 23, and three daughters: Ophelia, aged 16, and two younger ones, Mary Ann, aged one.

Detective Chief Superintendent Peter Bradbury, who is leading the hunt for the killers, said there had been several other racial attacks by white youths on black people recently, including the stabbing last Thursday of another black man who is recovering in Guy's Hospital.

Scotland Yard said last night that a youth was assisting their inquiries, but no charges are expected immediately. They also ruled out any connection with the recent incident in Peckham on Saturday night when 500 black youths rampaged through a shopping centre, smashing windows and looting shops.

The last hours of Mr Ogbogo were gradually being pieced together by police yesterday. Scotland Yard said there was evidence that he had tried to commit suicide earlier in the evening on Saturday, and had pulled back from jumping from the balcony of a block of flats.

It appeared that he befriended a group of white youths in a public house in the Old Kent Road. Later in the evening they saw him being attacked by another group of white youths who were fought back by Mr Ogbogo then went to the 'Sebel Fish Bar' in Old Kent Road and was watching a boxing match on a television there when three white youths came in.

Mr Ogbogo was stabbed repeatedly. The youth ran off and their victim staggered along the pavement before collapsing. He died later at Guy's Hospital.

It took police nearly two days to establish Mr Ogbogo's identity. An incident room has been set up at Tower Bridge police station and detectives are conducting house-to-house inquiries.

Walker calls for end of dogmatic stand on Tory monetarist policy

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

Without sending Mrs Thatcher an advance copy of his speech, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture and one of the leading "wets" in the Cabinet, yesterday argued forcefully against the Government's rigid stand on monetarism when he addressed the British-American Chamber of Commerce in New York.

"Our basic political and economic approach should be free of any doctrinaire approach," he said. "It should not be based upon the works and intellects of a few economists, but on the common sense of any one group of economists be they of the London, Harvard, Cambridge, Chicago or any other school."

"This is not a decade for western governments to become too fascinated by any economic theory. It is a decade for sane and pragmatic decision-making."

After referring to the changing pattern of world trade, Mr Walker turned to the United Kingdom where he said there were likely to be "domestic tensions of considerable proportions."

The spectre of high unemployment had re-emerged as a time when many of the most cherished, inherited values were under greater pressure than

ever before: the Church, the family, moral standards, human expectations and the basic work ethic were all now subject to question and to change.

"The nature of our city and urban problem is such that high unemployment will bring with it high levels of crime and perhaps young generations developing a total hostile approach to the structure of our society."

In these circumstances, said Mr Walker, the objective of western statesmanship should be the provision of some sense of stability in a period when so many forces were working for instability, and to obtain both a sense of national unity within our own countries, and a wider unity of the Western democracies so as to preserve the freedoms and the compassion for which they have been noted.

Arguing obliquely for more state intervention, Mr Walker called attention to the dilemma of industries in financial difficulty, whether due to the world recession or to intensive (and sometimes subsidized) competition from overseas. Industrial liquidation in a period of economic contraction could mean the destruction of health.

"The plan is to keep the people remain—the plant to rust, and

the people to be kept at the expense of those who are able to continue to produce. Suppliers collapse and customers go elsewhere."

It is for this reason that in such economies as Japan and Germany—both advocates of free enterprise—the industrial strategy is carefully planned and the major liquidation, be it Volkswagen or a major Japanese shipbuilder, is either prevented or organized.

Quoting with approval a speech by the late General de Gaulle, in which he referred to the need to give everyone a direct share in the proceeds of the concern for which he or she works, Mr Walker said: "In the same way, as we must pursue policies that do not create a divisive society between the employed and the unemployed, we must also pursue policies that achieve the maximum of unity of purpose of those engaged in commerce and industry."

At no point in his speech, in the text circulated in advance, does Mr Walker have a word of praise for Mrs Thatcher or the achievements of the Government of which he is a member.

It was reported in Whitehall that Mrs Thatcher would not. Continued on back page, col 1

Mark Chapman admits he killed John Lennon

Mr Mark Chapman changed his mind and pleaded guilty to murdering John Lennon, the former Beatle, in New York last year. He told his lawyer that God had told him to switch

from his original plea of not guilty by reason of insanity. A trial will not now be required and the judge adjourned the case for sentencing in August. Page 8

Scottish legal system in crisis

The Civil Service unions' industrial action has virtually paralysed the Scottish legal system, the Government and the unions have been told by the heads of the legal profession in Scotland. A statement, the lawyers say, the situation is intolerable in a civilised community. Page 3

Thursday may be Vott cuts day

Plans have been made for Mr John Vott, Secretary of State for Defence, to announce the results of his defence review in Parliament on Thursday, after a Cabinet meeting to endorse his proposals. Page 3

Polish assurance

The Polish leadership used the 25th anniversary of the German attack on the Soviet Union to reaffirm Poland's allegiance to Moscow and to say they were surmounting the country's crisis. Page 8

Spanish King badly cut

King Juan Carlos of Spain, who was badly cut after falling through a glass door, has left hospital after an overnight stay. He slipped by his swimming pool. With his left arm in a sling, the King described his accident as "nothing". Page 9

£57m lifeline for Belfast yard

Harland and Wolff, the Belfast shipbuilding and engineering group, is to receive almost £57m of Government aid in cash and guarantees. The move follows a similar provision made last year to help the troubled yard. Page 17

Poison plot trial

A Libyan in Britain was accused of trying to poison a Libyan family who refused to go back, by lacing peanuts with a poison from which two children almost died. Page 4

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Benn could cost Labour election, says Foot

By Philip Webster, Political Staff

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour Party leader, said last night that the decision of Mr Wedgwood Benn to contest the deputy leadership contest could widen the gulf between the parliamentary party and the party in the country, and lose Labour the next election.

Mr Foot, interviewed on BBC television's *Panorama* programme, said that the deputy leadership campaign was a distraction.

In the latest of several calls for the party to stop fighting among themselves and to concentrate on electing the Conservative executive would have to lay down ground rules covering the length and cost of future campaigns.

conference, and if that gulf is dug deeper all the time then we will not win the next election."

Mr Foot said that in rejecting his appeal to him not to stand, Mr Benn had failed to recognize the "real socialist perspective."

Mr Foot's obvious irritation at the way the current campaign has developed mirrored the growing feeling among Labour MPs that under the new electoral college system the party may be embroiled in long divisive elections every year.

Mr Foot said that the party's national executive would have to lay down ground rules covering the length and cost of future campaigns.

anybody who really wants to throw out this Thatcher Government—and I am sure Tony Benn does—has an election every year in this kind of form."

Mr Benn was confirmed as the overwhelming choice of Labour constituencies and Mr Denis Healey of MPs in a Gallup poll conducted for *Panorama*. The poll emphasized yet again that the fate of the two main contenders will be decided by the unions, which elect the college.

Officials were interviewed in 247 constituencies and asked whom they thought would be their local party's first choice; 120 (49 per cent) opted for Mr Benn, 37 (15 per cent) for Mr Healey, 12 (5 per cent) for Mr

Silkin, and 78 (31 per cent) were undecided.

Of the 169 who declared themselves, Mr Benn therefore had 71 per cent of the vote, Mr Healey 22 per cent, and Mr Silkin 7 per cent.

Of the 160 MPs asked for whom they would be voting, 63 (39.4 per cent) declared for Mr Healey, 23 (14.4 per cent) for Mr Benn, the same for Mr Silkin, and 51 (31.8 per cent) were either undecided or refused to give their preference.

Of the total of 109 who declared themselves, therefore, 58 per cent would vote for Mr Healey, 21 per cent for Mr Benn, and the same for Mr Silkin.

Healey at TGWU, Page 2

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Whitelaw ready to erase defect in IRA poll Bill

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, appeared to be moving swiftly last night to reassess Conservative and Labour MPs: appalled at the discovery of a serious defect in the Representation of the People Bill which would allow an IRA prisoner in the Irish Republic to stand for election to Westminster.

The Bill, which was having its second reading in the Commons last night, is designed to prevent a repetition of the 1979 election in which Mr Robert Sanda, the IRA hunger striker, was elected MP for the constituency.

It disqualifies convicted persons serving sentences of more than 12 months for membership of, or nomination for election to, the House of Commons while still in prison.

The Home Office apparently overlooked the fact that the IRA, from pushing for election a convicted person in Portlouis, the high security jail in the Republic, who could well have been born in Northern Ireland and would therefore have been eligible for nomination.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Opposition spokesman on Home Affairs, pointed out that the loophole could only result in the Government being ridiculed and humiliated.

Mr Whitelaw intervened to agree that the loophole existed and added that he was prepared to give sympathetic consideration to any amendments.

Within minutes of Mr Hattersley's rebuke, Conservative MPs were making the same point to the Home Secretary.

Mr Whitelaw said that the people to whom the Bill applied were not mere cranks or jokers. They were people manifestly unfit for public office who had exploited a loophole in the electoral law.

There was a widespread sense of outrage not merely at the election of a convicted

terrorist but at the fact that his nomination should have been allowed to stand. Allowance of a free vote on the Bill, said Mr Hattersley, would be a serious defect in the Bill. It was always dangerous to deal with individual difficulties and he felt that the Bill would help rather than hinder the IRA.

While it was not the right of an IRA gunman to sit in the House of Commons, it was the right of the constituency to elect an MP of its choosing. The Bill considerably diminished the right of citizens to choose their parliamentary representative.

If a constituency chose an imprisoned person as its MP that was exactly what it should get: an imprisoned MP. Mr Hattersley said, it was not for MPs to overrule the voice made by the constituency.

The Bill was later given a second reading by 248 votes to 137, a Government majority of 111.

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Sir John Biggs-Davison: His second letter bomb.

Letter bomb to MP intercepted

By Stewart Tisdler, Crime Reporter

A letter bomb addressed to Sir John Biggs-Davison, Conservative MP for Epping Forest, was discovered at the House of Commons sorting office yesterday. Scotland Yard said it was similar to bombs posted to the Prince of Wales, the Prime Minister and a number of other MPs.

Sir John said later he was very grateful to the sorters who had spotted the bomb. He added that it was the second he had received: in 1972 one was sent to his home by a group called Saor Uladh (Free Ulster).

The devices first began to appear in January and have been sent to MPs including Mrs Jill Knight (Birmingham, Edgbaston); Mr Barry Porter (Bellingham and Elmham); Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow Home Secretary, and Mr James Kilfedder (Down, North).

Last week one addressed to Mr Geoffrey Palmer, MP for Leicester, West, was discovered at a Sussex post office.

Police believe most of the bombs are the work of a single person who could be mentally disturbed. That sent to Mr Jenner may be another's work.

All but the bomb sent to Mr Jenner were in a padded envelope and only one was not intercepted.

control inflation "will be essential to safeguard expansion".

The document commits a future Labour government to a policy aimed at restoring full employment through improved public and private investment, the use of a national investment bank, and improved public services.

Such an assessment, which is described as carefully, wage terms, would take into account the share of national income absorbed by profits as well as "earnings from employment".

At the same time the document retains a commitment to a "social contract" with power to enable "prices to be investigated, controlled or reduced".

movement the fall-guy for all their crimes.

The franchise is going to go a lot further in the next few months. Mrs Thatcher and the Institute of Directors have already worked out detailed plans for crippling the trade union movement by withdrawing its rights and ability to defend its members and it looks as if there will be another Bill for this in the autumn.

The lunchtime fringe meeting, attended by about 50 of the 1,000 TGWU conference delegates, also brought a warning from Mr Healey that Labour should not take a victory at the polls for granted.

Following delegates, last night decided to attempt to force a debate this week on the Labour Party deputy leadership election, with emergency motions naming Mr Benn as their preferred candidate.

Unions draw up new economic policy

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Reporter

Senior trade union and Labour Party leaders yesterday reached an economic policy agreement intended to form part of a new Labour manifesto which can reinforce the party's general election platform.

Although the TUC-Labour Party liaison committee took a further step towards an agreed joint statement on incomes and prices, it was not without conflict by leaving debate discussion of a wages policy for the future.

The committee meeting, attended by Mr Michael Foot, leader of the party, broadly endorsed a new economic policy on economic issues facing the next Labour government, which affirms that an agreed policy to

control inflation "will be essential to safeguard expansion".

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Railway electrification

Sir Peter and the battle for profitability

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

So far as railway electrification is concerned, it is now abundantly clear what happened at last week's Cabinet meeting. Mrs Margaret Thatcher did not drop a glove for Sir Peter Parker to pick up; she threw down a gauntlet.

According to Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, in his Commons statement yesterday, there will be no government commitment to a rolling programme of electrification, large or small, as recommended in the joint study of British Rail and his department earlier this year.

Instead, electrification schemes will be approved one by one as British Rail demonstrates its profitability through potential revenue and production savings.

But British Rail has said that without sharply increased investment—an extra £36m a year for electrification and £27m for associated rolling stock-signalling and track—the railways will go into rapid decline by 1983 and 3,000 miles of track will become unusable by 1990.

Thus the stage is now set for the kind of confrontation over the future of the railways that last took place under Beeching nearly 20 years ago, with a tough-minded Conservative government representing taxpayer interests on the one side and the rail users, the environmentalists, and rail unions on the other.

In the middle stands Sir Peter, British Rail's ebullient chairman, who could be the best man to bring about a reconciliation; but who in some Government eyes has failed to deliver on productivity, and who they see as muddying the waters with a private gain claim of his own (£70,000-£80,000 a year) as the price of continuing to manage the railway after September.

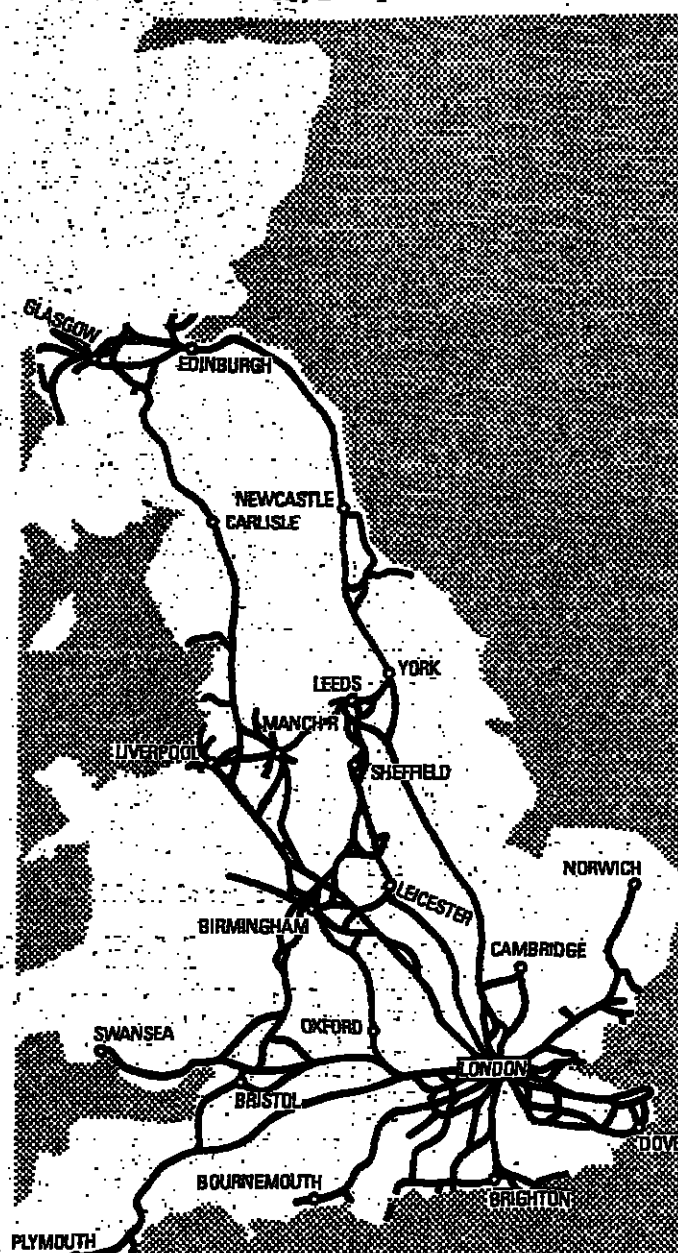
The argument has changed in one important respect since Beeching, in that no one now expects to bring about a railway in a small country to pay (only freight railways in large countries, like the United States and the Soviet Union do that). So it is common ground (except perhaps for the far right) that bodies like British Rail and London Transport should receive a large subsidy from the public purse (£660m for British Rail last year), as part of their normal financing.

But in another sense the argument is the same. What is also common ground (except perhaps for the far left) that subsidies do not necessarily buy good value.

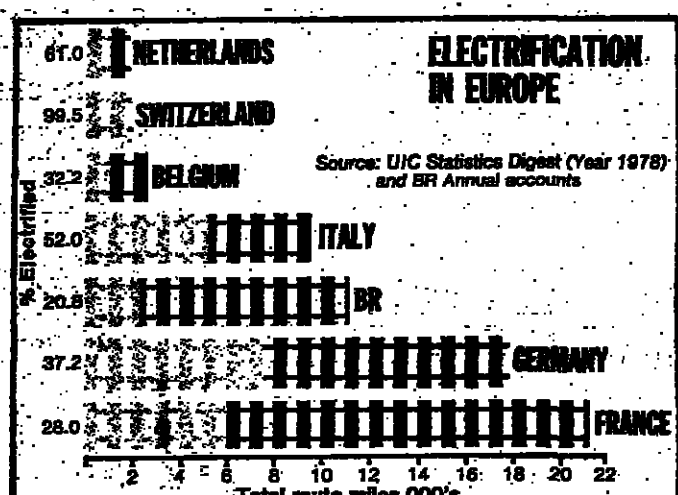
Obviously the "desirable outcome", which Mrs Thatcher presumably, and Mr Fowler, certainly, would approve is that the railways should continue but in a less costly and wasteful form.

In a Balance Sheet of Change put to the rail unions last November, Sir Peter listed the reasons for the decline of the railways, and those by the Government, to get British Rail moving. These have since been quantified in crude terms at a 38,000 manpower reduction on the part of British Rail, and a 10,000 reduction on the part of the Government.

For its part, British Rail seems to be doing quite well. More than 7,000 jobs have already gone, roughly on target, and another 6,000 are to go from withdrawal from collected and delivered parcels over the next



Electrification in the 1990s of up to 42 per cent of British Rail's network: this could be the map of the main line electric services then, assuming BR meets the successive profitability targets set out in yesterday's government policy statement. At present 23 per cent of the network is to be electrified. British Rail had sought approval for a scheme covering 52 per cent of the present network. (Non-electric services not shown on map.)



few weeks. Marshalling yards, largely superfluous in days of large trains and through freight wagons, are being closed steadily, and the 5 per cent cut in train services to match falling demand is also proceeding in train, despite rumbles of discontent from commuters and

But, there is still incredibly wasteful duplication at managerial and clerical level, and costly restrictive practices and demarcation between the unions at train level. That results in unnecessary guards, drivers, and second men on trains and other superfluous staff at stations.

For example, the agreement with the Associated Society of 110 days specified under Scottish law.

Those prisoners who are not brought to trial within the specified period should be set free, but the Crown Office has argued in their cases that the delays cannot be blamed on the prosecution and extensions of their remand in custody have been granted by judges, albeit reluctantly in several cases.

The legal authorities in Scotland also said that many people awaiting trial have been released on bail when they would normally have been remanded in custody.

The statement to the Government and the unions is signed by Mr Charles Kemp Davidson QC, the Dean of the Faculty of Advocates (the English equivalent is chairman of the Bar Council), Professor Philip M. Love, President of the Law Society of Scotland, Mr Desmond Queen, President of the Glasgow Bar Association and the Royal Faculty of Procurators in Glasgow.

They say: "After 12 weeks of virtual paralysis the contribution of Glasgow Sheriff Court to the administration of justice in Scotland has become negligible."

The future of the company, which produces Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, has been in doubt for some time since it was rejected for an Arts Council grant and attempts to raise money through an appeal are believed to have met little success.

Sir Charles is understood to have offered to make a personal contribution to the company and help with fund-raising with a number of others including Lord Delfont.

CRITICS OF MELLISH ON ATTACK

By Sarah Segre

Mr Robert Mellish, MP for Southwark, Bermondsey, and former Labour Chief Whip, was accused yesterday of being out of touch with his constituency and of "drifting away from the party and local community".

Mr Peter Tatchell, secretary of his local Labour Party, said in a statement that the MP was out of touch with the main stream of local party opinion. It was a response to Mr Mellish's announcement last Friday that he was considering his personal position as an MP.

Mr Mellish's views on several party issues are involved, but there is also criticism of his accepting the vice-chairmanship of the Pickles Ltd Development Corporation, which the local party considers is transferring powers from the democratically elected council to people not accountable to the local community.

Mr Mellish last night reacted by saying that anyone in Bermondsey believes that rubbish I shall be very surprised indeed. He said the comments typified the trendy left in the constituency.

him as a candidate, adding: "It is a sad commentary that in this enlightened day and age there are people about who still don't understand the teamwork that is required to make up this great union."

Mr Kitson said: "We are seriously disturbed. We don't know where the stories emerged about this. The press are speaking as if Moss was not coming back, and writing obituaries. That is not a fact."

In his message to delegates Mr Evans said: "There is a deep need for unity in our movement, for building up our links with the Labour Party, and for developing a practical crusade against this government."

The goal of such a crusade would be to return a strong Labour government committed to a range of radical policies.

Scots courts paralysed by strikes, top lawyers say

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

The heads of the legal professions in Scotland have told the Government and the Civil Service unions that their legal system is virtually paralysed and damage caused by the union industrial action "may well be irreparable".

In an unprecedented statement, issued under the auspices of The Law Society of Scotland, the leading lawyers say: "The prolonged denial of justice in Glasgow Sheriff Court has created a situation which any civilised community must regard as intolerable."

The legal authorities in Scotland also said that many people awaiting trial have been released on bail when they would normally have been remanded in custody.

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Science report

Genetic technique to make new plants

By the Staff of "Nature"

Plant breeders have discovered a potentially powerful new tool for creating new plants, a means to transfer a single, helpful characteristic from one plant to another.

Gregor Mendel, the reticent monk who discovered the science of genetics, would have been astounded to know that this can now be done.

Normally, a plant with one desirable characteristic (such as high yield in one variety of corn) is crossed with another (such as one with a strong stem to resist high winds, but low yield) in the hope of generating offspring with both needed characters.

But the offspring will also pick up other undesired characteristics from the parents, and so only a laborious process of crossing, re-crossing and selection over many generations can create a new, useful variety.

In the new method, Dr J. Jinks, Dr P. Calligaris, and Dr N. Ingram of the University of Birmingham first give the pollen of the male parent a charge of gamma radiation, which causes mutations in the pollen. This is then used to induce random mutations—before crossing. In their experiments the pollen donors were green tobacco plants with plain flowers and black ovaries; the maternal parent was tobacco with mop-like flowers and yellow ovaries. The plants also differed in many other characters, such as height.

The researchers were surprised to find that the offspring did not contain a mixture of their parents' characters, but were very similar to the original maternal parent, even in characters in which the paternal parent was normally "dominant". Such characters in the offspring a normal cross would always take the paternal parent's form.

Even more remarkably, some of the offspring (about 18 per cent) had inherited a single character from the paternal parent. Plants were found, for example, which had black ovaries but were otherwise very similar to the maternal parent.

What seems to be happening is that the chromosomes, the structures containing genetic information, in the pollen are being pulverised. Those broken chromosomes, however, are not so damaged that they cannot be transferred to the maternal plant by the growth of a pollen tube and stimulates the egg to begin development.

Normally, corresponding chromosomes from each of the parents would then pair off, because the maternal chromosomes are broken it seems that the maternal chromosomes double and pair with themselves. At some stage during this doubling bits of the paternal chromosomes are being incorporated, but how this takes place is not known.

If the technique can be developed in other species, it could transform plant breeding. It amounts to a new kind of genetic engineering, cruder perhaps than the subtle techniques of the molecular biologists, but it may be more practical for the breeder seeking quick improvements in his stock.

Source: Nature vol 291, p 556
Nature-Times News Service.

WARNING TO 8 COUNCILS ON HOMES

Eight more local authorities were warned yesterday of possible government intervention if they failed to show that they were acting with reasonable speed in processing council tenants' applications to buy their homes.

They are Birmingham, Bristol, Burnley, Doncaster, Great Yarmouth, Middlesbrough, Hull and Wakefield.

On April 9 the Government issued a list of 27 local authorities which it was questioning about their records in implementing the Housing Act 1974. A week later the Government said that it would intervene to enforce sales unless it received adequate evidence of progress.

The Government today faces intervention by a Commons select committee about its own housing record.

Shelter yesterday called upon ministers to publish updated estimates of the need for new houses. It had told the committee that in the next seven years 100,000 fewer homes will be built than are needed for new households.

A party was held last night at Alexandra Palace in north London to mark the end of the BBC's 45-year association with the building (Kenneth Gossing writes). The world's first regular television service began there on November 2, 1936, with cabaret, magazine programmes and cartoons.

The party was organized for the people who have worked there, many now in their seventies or eighties, including commissioners and switchboard girls.

The BBC leaves on July 3 and next day BBC 2 will present Magic Rays of Light, giving highlights of the palace's history. Sir Ian Traill, BBC director-general, was last at the party.

Tube fires inquiry

By Our Crime Reporter

Police and fire experts yesterday began their third investigation into two weeks into fires on the London Underground system, in the aftermath of the blaze at Goudge Street station on Sunday.

A man died after being rescued and a number of other people were overcome by smoke. A motorman and two passengers were still being treated in hospital.

London Transport Police, forensic scientists and the London Fire Brigades' investigation unit are examining the cause of outbreak at Goudge Street just under two weeks ago.

Yesterday London Transport said that there was no connection between the weekend fire and the other two.

Four trains were caught in the smoke created by the fire on the Goudge Street line. Mr Scott, one of the drivers, described yesterday how his train was engulfed in black smoke. Mr Scott said he could have got his train away safely but a passenger pulled the emergency cord and the train stopped. He said he was startled but this would have been a while "and I was more concerned with the passengers".

He went back through the carriages with a colleague and helped hundreds of passengers from the train to the safety of the platform.

BBC FAREWELL TO PALACE

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Nott expected to detail defence cuts on Thursday

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Plans have been made for Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, to announce the results of his defence review to Parliament on Thursday. But they will not be completed until the day itself in case of "a hiccup getting into the system" as one official put it yesterday.

Mr Nott was heard with "sympathetic understanding" in Washington at the weekend, when he explained his position to Mr Casper Weinberger, his opposition number in the Reagan administration.

The mood was friendly, according to sources, and Mr Nott's account of how far he had progressed, was listened to without any criticism. It is thought likely that the two men will confer again by telephone before Mr Nott makes his disclosures to the Commons.

The Defence Secretary is paying a similar call today on Dr Joseph Luns, Secretary-General of Nato, in Brussels. Tomorrow he goes on to Bonn to visit Herr Hans Apel, the West German defence minister.

If all goes according to plan, Mr Nott's proposals will be endorsed by the Cabinet on Thursday in time for an afternoon statement in the Commons. It is there any last minute hitch the denouement will come any time during the next two weeks.

Mr Nott is understood to be emphasizing on his whistle-stop

tour of the principal allies that Britain will continue to raise defence spending by an annual 3 per cent until 1986. As the Royal Navy is expected to suffer most acutely in the reshaping of the budget he is thought to have survived the toughest test through his confrontation with the Americans, Nato's main maritime power.

The Europeans by contrast will probably be relieved that Mr Nott's proposals do not inflict more damage on Britain's presence in West Germany where the British Army of the Rhine is based.

One advantage of a Thursday statement from the Government's point of view is that it will end the current wave of speculation which is held to be harmful to morale among the services.

Another is that it will vie for coverage in the Friday newspapers with a Commons Defence Committee report on the strategic weapons policy. Although the main report will endorse the Government decision to buy the Trident nuclear missile from the United States, there will be a dissenting amendment from Opposition members of the 11-man committee.

There is an unwritten rule in Whitehall that the best way to defuse two controversial announcements is to ensure that they are made simultaneously.

Navy reductions seen as recipe for defeat

By Peter Hennessy

Britain's maritime lobby yesterday began the fight back against cuts in naval strength to which are to be announced shortly as part of the Government's defence review.

A meeting of the Greenwich Forum in the House of Lords resulted in the sending of a letter to the Prime Minister, signed by MPs, peers, sailors, industrialists and academics. It gave a warning that deep cuts in the Royal Navy's surface fleet would be an act from which only the country's enemies would benefit and a recipe for defeat in time of war.

The Greenwich Forum is a broadly-based and influential group of maritime experts. It was established in 1973 with the aim of bringing to the attention of a wider public the importance of maritime matters to British interests.

Among the signatories of the letter were Mr Keith Speed, Conservative MP for Ashford, and formerly navy minister, who was dismissed by the Prime Minister last month after speaking publicly about the likely effects of a defence review on naval forces.

Others included Miss Janet Fookes, Conservative MP for Plymouth, Drake, Lord Lloyd of Kilgeran, a member of the

RADIATION RISKS EXAMINED

By Pearce Wright

Science Editor

Proposed revisions to radiation exposure were discussed at a conference in London yesterday.

At the meeting, organized by the British Association for the Advancement of Science, experts from the United States and Britain examined new protection regulations, agreed by the International Radiological Protection Commission, which will form the basis of the law on radiation safety in the United Kingdom. They are contained in a document called ICRP-26.

The conclusions of the international organization are to be adopted for revised government regulations to be ready in about six months. Argument over them turns on the evidence for estimating the risks of genetic damage and of an increase in the incidence of cancer from persistent but slight exposure to low levels of radiation.

Professor A. C. Upton of the Institute of Environmental Medicine, New York, highlighted the uncertainties when he explained that an important re-evaluation was to be made in the United States of the effects on the population of Hiroshima and Nagasaki of the atomic bomb.

Sir Edward Pocin, a member of the National Radiological Protection Board, argued that the improved approach in ICRP-26 gave a framework to estimate the risks from radiation and to compare them with the risk of other industrial activities and accidents in general.

MIND has brought cases before the European Court on behalf of four Broadmoor patients and it announced yesterday that a former patient who appears in the film has also had his case held admissible by the European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg over a mental patient who claims he was unlawfully detained under the Mental Health Act 1959 and was deprived of the right to have his case reviewed in a court of law. It affects the rights of about 2,000 "restricted" patients.

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Photograph by Jonathan Player

Splashing into summer

No summertime blues for this youngster taking the waters at Hyde Park Lido, London, yesterday and staying cool into the bargain. The young pupil from the International English School in Holland Square had the right idea as temperatures soared. With high pressure remaining in the South, the prospect of the warm weather continuing looks good. However, weak troughs of low pressure are crossing northern Britain.

Weather forecast, back page

Soldiers deny plot to kill

A soldier planned to avenge the sex-murder of his boy cousin, aged nine, a court was told yesterday.

He and two friends, with an arsenal of weapons, plotted to murder the man accused of the killing when he appeared on remand before magistrates. It was alleged at the Central Criminal Court.

But the men and their weapons were picked up by police searching for car thieves. Michael Coombe for the prosecution, said.

After his arrest, the soldier allegedly wrote to his superior officer: "The only real thing I am sorry about is the upset I have caused my family and that I have failed in my task."

The soldier, Private Neville Edmondson, aged 20, and his two co-defendants, Private Gary Rozier, aged 21, and Corporal Ivor Hurst, aged 25, deny plotting to murder Bernard MacAnaspie, aged 25, a dustman. They also deny conspiring to inflict grievous bodily harm and possessing firearms in November last year.

Mr Coombe said the three had two sub-machine guns, three "pretty lethal" thunderflashes, 27 bullets and smoke grenades.

He said Mr Edmondson told police the thunderflashes and smoke grenades were to be used when Mr MacAnaspie appeared at Harlow magistrates court on remand accused of murdering Steven Edmondson, the second cousin of Private Edmondson.

Mr Edmondson had told police: "I vowed I would get him. I felt hot for this man," Mr Coombe said.

ARMY STUNT INJURES GIRL

A girl aged six suffered a fractured skull and three other people minor injuries when a stunt went wrong during a performance by the Royal Signals White Helicopters motorcycle team, at a British Steel sale at Brinsworth, Rotherham, on Sunday.

Police said that a rider intentionally fell from his machine, but his cycle went out of control. It struck a second performer who was riding his machine backwards and then careered through a rope barrier into the crowd, hitting Sarah Johnson, of Pilley Road, Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire.

Because there are no isolation beds in the private sector, patients requiring full isolation facilities have to be treated on the National Health Service at Coppertree Wood Hospital, where they cannot be charged.

Third airport inquiry to be widened

By Arthur Reed, Air Correspondent

The scope of the inquiry into the third London airport is almost certain to be widened from considering the development of Stansted, Essex, to take in both Heathrow and Gatwick, a site on the Essex coast.

That follows planning applications by Uttlesford District Council, in whose area Stansted lies, for the development of Heathrow and by the Town and Country Planning Association for the development of Gatwick.

Both applications are expected to be called in by the Department of the Environment for public inquiry, and it is also expected that those inquiries will be consolidated with the Stansted inquiry due to begin on September 15. As a result, the inquiry could last a year.

Mr J. F. Vernon, chief executive of Uttlesford council, said yesterday: "It seems sensible that the development of terminal five at Heathrow should be fully debated in the Stansted inquiry, rather than waiting two or three years for a further hearing."

British Airways, the main user of Heathrow, is to press strongly for the development of a fifth terminal on a 270-acre site occupied by a sewage works on the western perimeter of Heathrow airport.

Mr Roy Watts, chief executive of British Airways, said that there was no need for another large London airport this century because of lower

growth rates of air transport. The full development of existing airports could be sufficient.

Operating from yet another London airport would raise the airline's costs. Calculations showed that if British Airways had to move a substantial part of its operations to a prematurely developed Stansted, its annual costs would be £150m to £200m more than if it was concentrated at Heathrow and Gatwick.

The application by the British Airways Authority to develop Stansted to take 15m passengers a year was strongly attacked in a letter to *The Times* yesterday by Sir Colin Buchanan, the architect.

Urging the airports authority to withdraw its application, he wrote: "Never before has a project aroused such massive and varied opposition as at Stansted today. The conclusion is inescapable—the British Airports Authority will not win."

The authority yesterday discounted any suggestion that it might withdraw. It commented: "The Government's invitation to us to plan the development of Stansted followed nearly five years of consultation, not only with the air transport industry but with a wide range of other interests."

"It is no solution to suggest that the whole issue is referred back yet again. The delay would only endanger the success of an industry which is important to Britain."

Release of Lord Kagan from prison delayed

Lord Kagan was not released from prison yesterday as expected.

He has been serving a 10-month sentence in Rudgegate Open Prison, near Wetherby, North Yorkshire, and was expected to walk out a free man yesterday after serving six months of his sentence.

When several prisoners left at 7.15 am, he was not among them. A prison officer told journalists that all prisoners due for release had left.

No reason was given, and the prison governor, Mr Nigel Berry, was said to be "too busy" to discuss the subject.

A close friend, who has kept contact since Lord Kagan was jailed on theft and false accounting charges last December, said: "You know Joe, he may well have done a deal with the governor to avoid the press."

Lord Kagan has spent some time in prison helping his lawyers to sort out legal wrangles over unsettled debts.

Warning to drivers over invalid summonses

Drivers hoping to clear themselves of motoring convictions on the strength of a recent test case over invalid summonses were warned by two High Court judges yesterday not to "jump on the bandwagon".

Although two motorists won appeals after a ruling that the issue of a summons cannot be delegated to magistrates, court staff and can only be done by magistrates or their clerk, Lord Justice Griffiths said the decision should not be regarded as a spur to others.

He said: "We do not wish this decision to give any encouragement to others to think that at a late stage they can climb on this particular bandwagon."

The High Court was sure that the issue of summonses was no longer delegated to magistrates, sitting with Mr Justice Woolf.

The judges, in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, were giving guidance to magistrates and clerks on how to deal with various difficulties arising from the "no delegation" ruling earlier this year.

As a result of the ruling thousands of prosecutions had failed because they were based on summonses which had been "rubber stamped" by office clerks.

Three appeals were dismissed after the judges ruled that, although the summonses might originally have been defective, the information relating to each case had been "laid before" the magistrates within the six months' time limit when the proceedings were called on and then adjourned. That cured any defects.

The two drivers who successfully challenged their convictions were Mr Derek Ives, of Mersey Road, Gateshead, and Mr Carl Philip Moody.

The three drivers who unsuccessfully challenged prosecution were Leonard Hill, of Grosvenor Street, Stalybridge, Manchester; Stephen Hughes, of Edward Avenue, Chingford, Essex; and Gian Singh Dhesi, of Lennox Avenue, Gravesend, Kent.



Lost dancer hid in loft

Michelle Jarrett, aged 19, the missing ballerina, who disappeared yesterday after hiding for almost a week in the loft of her home in the Great West Road, Hounslow. She reappeared only an hour and a half after her worried father arrived from Australia to look for her. The girl, a Rambert Academy student who had a Queen's scholarship, disappeared last Wednesday on the eve of a first night performance.

Mr Clive Jarrett, who was near tears when police told him they had found her in the attic, said: "My daughter has returned from her walkabout. I arrived here this morning and lay on Michelle's bed trying to work out where she could be. Then I had this feeling she was here in the house. I left for the police station and must have passed the police on their way to the house. I got a call to say Michelle had been found in the loft. It was a fearful reunion. I just told her get cleaned up, and we're taking the first flight home."

A family friend, Mr Christopher Mercer, who has been driving the distraught father through west London in search of his daughter said her flatmates knew nothing of her hiding place.

HARD WORK COMES FIRST

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES FIRST ENGLISH ENTERPRISE ZONE FOR INDUSTRY

Corby is now an Enterprise Zone. And that's official. Because the Government announced today that Corby has been selected to be the first officially designated area in England to offer a package of benefits and incentives never before enjoyed by industrialists.

So why Corby first, ahead of other areas? It probably had a lot to do with Corby's reputation for hard work. Corby boasts an exceptionally strong community spirit, a major driving force behind all Corby's efforts. But not only is the community committed to Corby's future, it's also made up of a skilled industrial workforce.

The community has had a voice, too. Corby moved speedily and efficiently in discussions with the Government. And an extensive promotional campaign has been informing Government and industrialists alike just how strong the community spirit is.

Like the campaign stated, the people of Corby have never been afraid of hard work. And now, as an Enterprise Zone, it looks like their efforts are about to be rewarded.

Enterprise Zone status means:

- * Rates (local tax) free for 10 years
- * 100% of building costs available for initial depreciation allowance
- * No industrial training board levies
- * Exemption from Development Land Tax
- * Simplified planning procedures
- * Eased customs warehousing facilities

In addition Corby offers the grants and incentives of a Development Area and the obvious attractions of being located in the prosperous S.E. with a market of 30 million people within a 100 mile radius.

For further information, contact Fred McLaughlin, Director of Industry, Douglas House, Queens Sq., Corby, Northants. Tel: Corby 62571. Telex: 341544.

CORBY WORKS

'Lost' typhoid suspect never left town

By Nicholas Timmins

A lost Chinese businessman, suspected typhoid, who as thought to be flying round Europe seeking treatment, yesterday turned out to be still here he was said to have acted out, in Lagos, Nigeria. is condition was improving. The false alarm nevertheless led to a call for tighter controls over international regulations governing the movement of air-travelers with fever or contagious diseases.

Dr Anthony Hall, a consultant at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases in London, who was initially asked to take the businessman, Mr Robert Chew, a patient, said the Department of Health and Social Security should set up a foreign

patients unit to help to enforce the existing regulations, and to prevent doctors signing fraudulent notes to get patients with contagious diseases transported to England.

"We have had cases in the past where a doctor gives the patient two letters, one to show the airline, saying the patient is not contagious, the other for a doctor at this end, to say the doctor has suspected typhoid. The doctor is writing a fraudulent note to help the patient to come over."

A central health service unit could put pressure on medical authorities to discipline doctors who adopt such a course, because international regulations prohibit the transport of

patients with fever, diarrhoea or suspected contagious diseases.

Last year 615 typhoid patients were treated in Britain, only 69 of whom contracted it here, although it was not possible to say how many had been knowingly brought back with the disease.

The Hospital for Tropical Diseases has a typhoid suspect flown into Britain by a foreign airline, although it appears now that he may not have the disease.

Because there are no isolation beds in the private sector, patients requiring full isolation facilities have to be treated on the National Health Service at Coppertree Wood Hospital, where they cannot be charged.

Police rad
messages
recalled a
riot inqu

MOST OF THE PEOPLE WHO BUY NEW VOLVOS HAVE OWNED ONE IN THE PAST.

THE REST ARE JUST GOOD AT ARITHMETIC.

Volvo 244DL	£6656
Rover 2300	£7061
Ford Granada 2.3L	£7235
BMW 520	£8150
Mercedes 200	£8700

Mugabe rules out joining sanctions on South Africans

Salisbury, June 22.—Mr. Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwe Prime Minister, said today that his country could not take part in any international trade sanctions against South Africa.

Zimbabwe's economic dependence on its neighbour was such that it would be senseless to pretend it could join an embargo, Mr. Mugabe said in an interview with Reuters on the eve of his departure for the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit in Nairobi.

There are expected to be talks at the meeting for sanctions aimed at forcing South Africa to yield on its terms in the independence of Namibia (South-West Africa) and to modify its domestic policies of racial segregation.

Mr. Mugabe, a prominent figure among leaders of the so-called front-line African states opposed to South African policies, said Zimbabwe sought only peace and cooperation with the republic. But South Africa, he said, was itching for war.

Mr. Mugabe also said he believed that South Africa had drawn comfort from the election of President Reagan, whose Administration has been accused by black Africa of siding in favour of Pretoria.

But he felt that ultimately the United States would not sacrifice its commitments to civil liberties and democracy in order to support apartheid.

At the OAU summit, Mr. Mugabe said, Zimbabwe would seek firm stands on apartheid and on Namibia which South Africa rules in defiance of much world opinion. The organization had to give maximum support to liberation forces in South Africa and also work out political and economic measures "of a nature that can bring sense to South Africa", he said.

"Any such pressures would be acceptable to Zimbabwe. We have said Zimbabwe itself is not in a position to participate in any sanctions that the international community proposes, but we will not stand in the way of their imposition even if they hurt us."

More than 90 per cent of Zimbabwe's trade passes through South Africa.

Mr. Mugabe also said: "Supposing the international community appealed to us to stop trading with South Africa—we can't stop using rail routes with South Africa. We can't, you see. This is the reality. We send our goods to South Africa and South Africa sends some of its goods to us. That is the type of sanctions we cannot participate in."

He said that although Zimbabwe was trying to lessen its reliance on the republic, independence had not yet been achieved.

Throughout the interview, Mr. Mugabe sipping tea and nibbling at small cakes, spoke quietly and without emotion. Only once did he become slightly impassioned, when he said: "We are pledged to peace in this region and we seek no war with anybody. We want to pursue policies of peaceful co-existence with our neighbours."

But South Africa is not searching for peace, it's actually itching for war, South Africa has got to make it possible for us to achieve that peace. It's not a one-sided affair."



Soldiers all: Members of the Laotian Army, which is open to men and women. It consists of former Pathet Lao guerrillas and royalist army elements.

100 reported dead in Casablanca

Casablanca, June 22.—More than 100 people were killed in two days of violent demonstrations during a general strike here at the weekend, a leader of the opposition Socialist Union of Popular Forces said today.

Many demonstrators, wounded when security forces fired on them, had died in police stations, he said. The strike, called by the Socialists and their trade union organization, was in protest at food price increases brought in last month.

The Socialist spokesman said 26 wounded people died while being held at a police station in the Roche Noires quarter, an industrial suburb north of Casablanca. There was no official confirmation of the casualty figures.

A doctor from one Casablanca hospital said that at least 10 people with gunshot wounds died in the hospital over the weekend.

The Socialist spokesman said there was practically a curfew here last night. Police and auxiliary forces patrolled the streets.

He said security forces fired on demonstrators, many of them young people, in several slum suburbs on Saturday and again yesterday. There were also demonstrations in Rabat, the Moroccan capital.—Reuters

Central America in turmoil

● This is the first of a series of articles on Central America.

From Stephen Downer
San José, Costa Rica, June 22

Not since the early 19th century has Central America been in such a state of turmoil.

A near civil war has cost more than 22,000 lives in El Salvador in 19 months. A flimsy peace is reigning along the mainly mountainous frontier between Honduras, where the Government is right-wing, and Nicaragua, whose leaders are moving to the left.

Supporters of the overthrow and subsequently assassinated Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza are threatening to "invade" Nicaragua and factions of the Honduran military are said to favour helping them.

In Guatemala, territorially the third largest of Central America's five countries, violence, perpetrated by the ultra-right and the extreme left, has cost 25,000 lives in 15 years.

"You don't have a point of view if you want to stay alive," a man waiting at a bus stop in Guatemala City said.

President Carter's human rights policy encouraged the movements which favoured sweeping social changes in Central America. While Mr. Carter was in the White House, 50 years of Somoza family rule were ended and a half century of military dominance was broken in El Salvador.

A move was made to return Honduras to civilian government. Elections are planned for November.

The region's ultra-conservatives have taken heart, however, from the Reagan Administration's comparative insensitivity to the cry for big



changes in most of Central America's social and economic structures.

Nevertheless, President Reagan has told President José López Portillo of Mexico that he takes seriously the Mexican argument that much needed economic aid to the region must not be tied to arms or subservice to United States ideology and must not automatically exclude any country.

After Spain's conquest of Mexico in 1520 what are now known as the states of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, along with the Mexican state of Chiapas, formed the captaincy general of Guatemala.

They became independent from Spain on October 15, 1821, and in 1823 the five Central American provinces declared themselves independent from Mexico, forming themselves into a federal republic called the United Provinces of Central America.

Troubles between liberals and conservatives led to the collapse of the federation in 1838. Many attempts have been made to restore the union, the closest being the founding of the Org-

anization of American States in 1951.

Through the OAS, the Central American Common Market was launched by Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua in December, 1960, and Costa Rica entered in July, 1962.

Yet it was disrupted by the war between Honduras and El Salvador in 1969 and has had a checkered existence since.

Low prices for agricultural products and high prices for oil, which only Guatemala has found in small amounts so far, have caused what one of Costa Rica's leading economists, Señor Fernando Marañón, calls "Central America's most serious economic problem in 30 years".

Señor Bernal Niehaus, the Costa Rican Foreign Minister, says: "The help and collaboration... of all developed countries is fundamental if our country and the rest of the region are to find a solution to economic problems."

Señor Oscar Arias Sánchez, a Social Democratic Party leader in Costa Rica, puts it more strongly: "The United States has to make up its mind whether to supply trade today or arms tomorrow."

Black student leaders captured in Soweto

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, June 22

A black official of the South African Council of Churches has joined the list of people held by security police in a wave of arrests and detentions.

Bishop Desmond Tutu, Secretary-General of the council, said here today that the Rev Sol Jacobson, the council's director of mission and evangelism, had been detained in Pietermaritzburg, Natal, after police raided his home at 5 a.m.

Security police have confirmed the capture of several exiled black student leaders, including a former president of the banned Soweto Student Representative Council.

The captured students are said to be members of the South African Youth Revolutionary Council, which was formed by exiled student leaders to continue "resistance" work.

According to police sources, the revolutionary group members were captured when they tried to "infiltrate" Soweto, the black township outside Johannesburg.

Icelanders lobby for Korchnoi

By Harry Golombek
Chess Correspondent

Icelanders condemned the Soviet Union for holding the family of Viktor Korchnoi, the challenger for the world championship chess title, when he visited the island recently.

A committee was formed to support the Fédération Internationale d'Echecs (FIDE) and the Icelandic Government in attempting to secure the release of the family.

Among about 100 prominent committee members were Dr Kristján Eldjárn, a former President of Iceland; the Bishop of Iceland and Mr Halldor Laxness, the writer and Nobel Prize Laureate.

An attempt was made to deliver the appeal to the Soviet Embassy in Reykjavik but the spokesman for the embassy refused to accept it.

The President of FIDE, grandmaster Fridrik Olafsson has discussed the case with the Soviet authorities and appealed to them to let Korchnoi's wife and son leave the country and join him abroad.

It is their exit from the Soviet Union and not a visit by Korchnoi to them there, as has been wrongly stated in an agency report, that will enable the world championship match to proceed under conditions that are fair to both sides.

Korchnoi visited Iceland at the invitation of the Reykjavik Chess Club which is celebrating its eightieth anniversary this year. He is due to challenge for the world chess championship at Merano in north Italy on October 19.

Hongkong says it with flowers

From Richard Hughes
Hongkong, June 22

Hongkong is supposed to have derived its name from the Chinese terms for "fragrant harbour" and it is now giving its new public housing estates and apartment blocks similar poetic Chinese names.

Five new estates have names meaning abundance of health, abundance of luck, heaven, benefit to the east and colourful garden.

Designers of the Colourful Garden estate—Choi Yuen—have set precedent by adapting variations on the "colourful" (choi) theme in their seven blocks, which have been named: colourful jade, screen, ke, pearl, flower, cloud and colourful and majestic.

Another estate has chosen its seven blocks China's proudest aspirations, meaning piety, beauty, achievement, peace, health, tranquility, and wealth.

This Hongkong campaign is expected to influence the naming of new settlement areas and the building blocks in the Philippines, South Korea and Malaysia.

41 DIE IN IRAN ROAD CRASH

Tehran, June 22.—A collision between three buses and a lorry at Kerman, in south-east Iran, killed 41 people and injured 24, Tehran Radio reported.

The negligence of one of the drivers was blamed for the incident. The official PARS news agency said three people in the lorry were among the dead—Agence France Presse

late deal averts US air traffic control strike

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, June 22

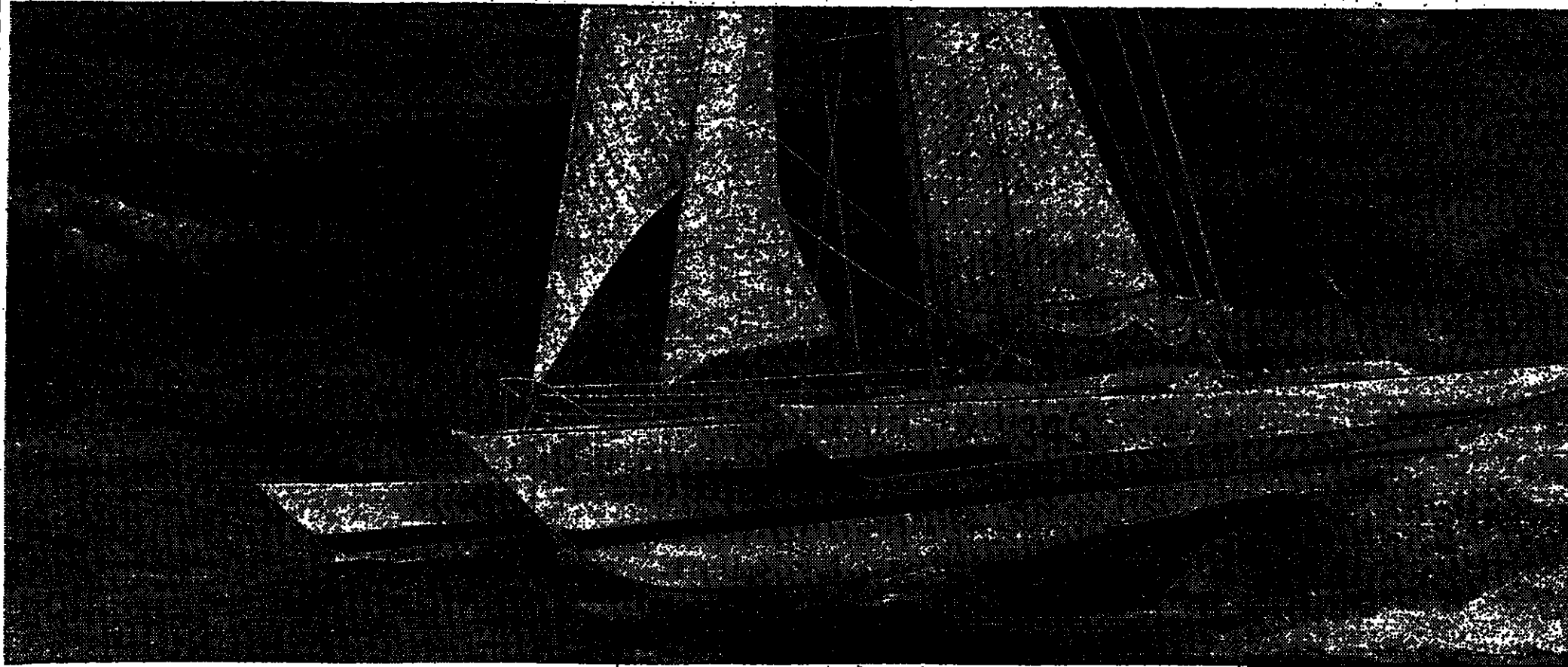
A threatened air traffic controllers' strike which would have caused chaos to both national and domestic flights using American airports, has been called off.

In the early hours of this morning negotiations for the Federal Aviation Administration reached a tentative agreement with leaders of the 17,000 air traffic controllers who had threatened to strike today. The Government's offer of pay and conditions was improved.

to go to the membership for ratification, but after 25 hours of negotiations over the last few days it seemed unlikely that there would be any late hitch.

Emergency plans had been prepared by government officials in an attempt to keep some services going and a federal judge refused to revoke an injunction which barred air traffic controllers from striking. Since the controllers are federal employees a strike would have been illegal and strikers could have risked fines or imprisonment.

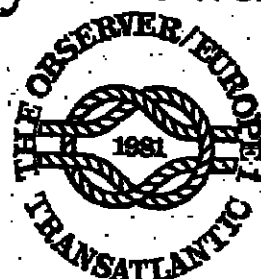
What this country needs is a revival of Blyth's spirit.



Against the strongest armada ever mounted by France, Italy and North America, Chay Blyth has won this year's Observer Transatlantic Race.

Against gale force winds, he and crewman Rob James have also crossed the Atlantic in record breaking time.

Congratulations from The Observer And Britain.



Poland uses war anniversary to soothe Russians

From Doreen Trevisan, Warsaw, June 22

The fortieth anniversary today of the German attack on the Soviet Union in the Second World War, gave the Polish leadership a chance to reaffirm its allegiance to Moscow and claim yet again that the Polish communists are determined to overcome the present crisis.

In a message to Mr. Brezhnev and his colleagues, Mr. Stanislaw Kania, General Wojciech Jaruzelski and Mr. Henryk Jablonski (representing the party, the Government and the state) emphasized the alliance and friendship of the two countries.

Referring to the present situation in Poland which is still causing serious anxiety in the Kremlin, they make a point of saying that since the plenary session of the Central Committee of the party, and all the patriotic forces are actively engaged in trying to surmount the crisis and open the way for the development of socialism.

The anniversary represents a welcome opportunity in Warsaw to underline Polish and Russian ties and to organize all sorts of solemn festivities.

The Polish-Soviet Friendship Society had a special meeting dedicated to promoting good relations and the occasion was used to emphasize the society's support for the leadership in its efforts to resolve the crisis by political means.

Simultaneously, General Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister who is also Minister of Defence, presided over a ceremony of the Polish General Staff which was attended by Soviet military representatives.

Such manifestations are clearly necessary at present and

Lennon case accused alters plea to guilty

From Michael Leasman, New York, June 22

Mark Chapman changed his mind and pleaded guilty here today to murdering John Lennon, the former Beatle, on December 8. He told his lawyer that God had commanded him to switch from his original plea of not guilty by reason of insanity.

Mr. Jonathan Marks told the court in a 10-minute open session that he had advised Mr. Chapman to stick to his original plea. "But when God told him to plead guilty... I was effectively removed from the decision-making process."

Mr. Marks said the message from God had come on June 6 and again two days later. He told reporters that Mr. Chapman believed he had heard God's voice on the first day and believed the message was confirmed in religious literature he had been reading on the second.

"There is no doubt in my mind that he is insane," Mr. Marks said.

Mr. Chapman shot Mr. Lennon a few hours after getting his autograph. The killing took place outside the building where Mr. Lennon lived with Yoko Ono, his wife, and their son.

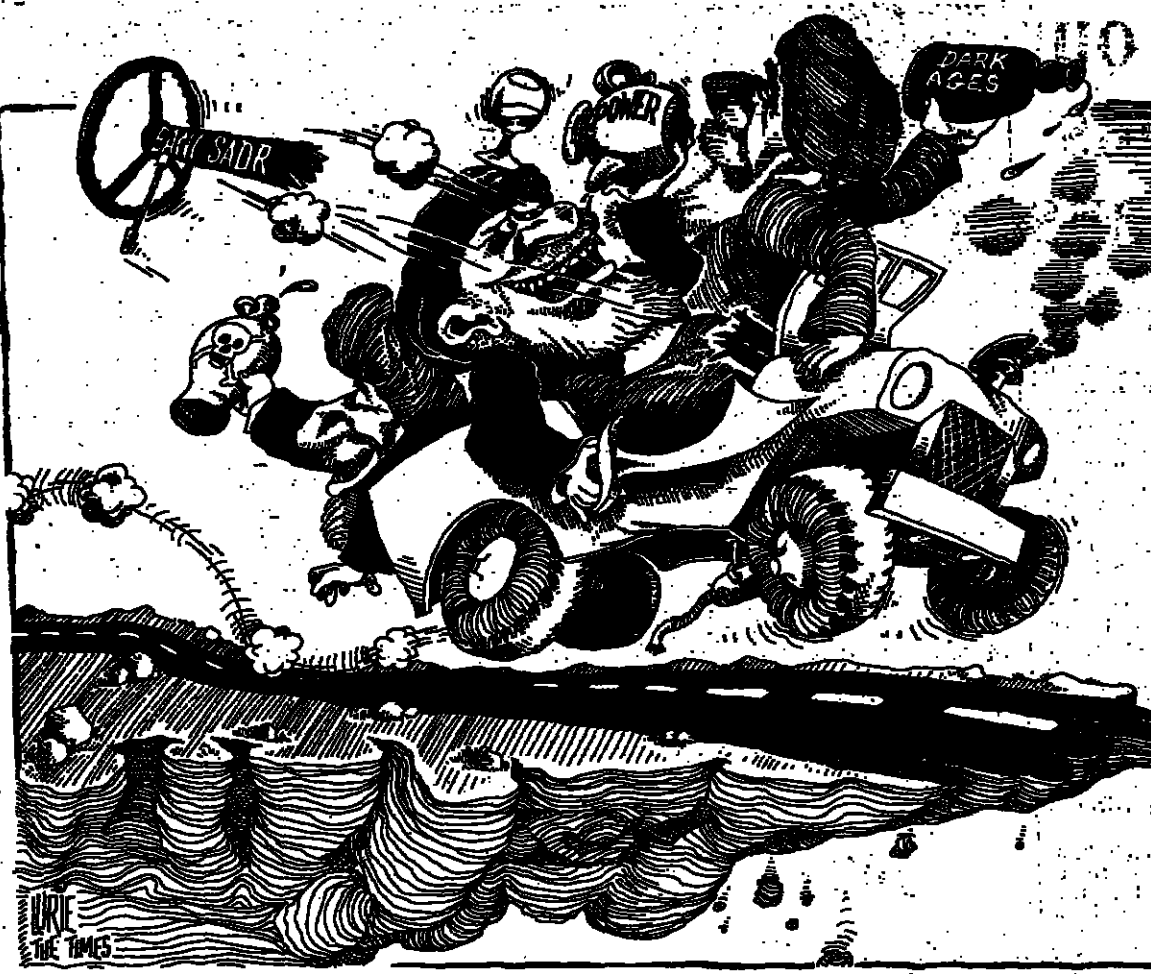
The original purpose of today's hearing was to begin to choose a jury. Now that the plea has been changed to guilty a trial will not be needed. The judge adjourned the case for sentencing on August 24. Mr. Marks said he will then present evidence in mitigation concerning Mr. Chapman's mental condition.

There was a delay of more than an hour before today's proceedings started. Mr. Dennis Edwards, the judge, learnt of the change of plea in his chambers and wanted to assure himself that Mr. Chapman knew what he was doing before allowing it.

Mr. Chapman sat as he heard Mr. Edwards say that it was a defendant's sole right to decide how to plead. The judge had decided that the change was made "knowingly and intelligently."

Mr. Edwards began by announcing the change of plea and his acceptance of it. Then Mr. Allen Sullivan, the Assistant District Attorney, said Mr. Chapman, who is 26, had made "a knowing, intelligent and voluntary waiver of his right to trial."

Mr. Marks said that, as well as his client believing that he had heard instruction from God, there was "a serious question as to whether he would be able to withstand the strain of what would have been a long trial without suffering a serious breakdown."



New faces at the assembly

From Ian Murray, Paris, June 22

When the new National Assembly meets for the first time on July 2, 205 of the 481 deputies will be taking their seats for the first time. This is largely because the Socialist Party won 162 seats, and the bulk of the winners have never served in Parliament.

There will be very slightly more women in the new assembly—26 instead of 21—and of these, no fewer than 19 are Socialists. It is now the party's policy to ensure that at least one third of its candidates are women, but that is something for the future.

The dozen of the house remains M. Marcel Dassault, founder of the French aircraft company which bears his name, and at 89 still one of the most formidable voices in French politics.

He will again be able to exercise the traditional right of the oldest member to preside over the assembly's first session and to pronounce the inaugural address, an ironic twist since his company is one of those due for nationalization under the Socialist programme.

He is a member of the Gaullist RPR, as is the youngest member of the house, M. Francois Fillon, a lawyer aged 27, who worked closely with M. Jean Le Theule, the minister of Defence, who died last year.

The assembly will contain six former prime ministers: M. Michel Debré, M. Maurice Couve de Murville, M. Pierre Messmer, M. Jacques Chabanais, M. Jacques Foccart and M. Raymond Barre. There has been a heavy casualty rate among ministers of the last Government, with 13 falling to win a seat, notably M. Alain Peyrefitte, the former Keeper of the Seals and Minister of Justice.

The Socialists had no problems in seeing their ministers elected. M. Lionel Jospin, the party's first secretary, won a seat for the first time, as did M. Gilbert Mitterrand, the son of the late President.

The Communists fared badly, with only M. Georges Marchais, their leader, and M. André Lajoinie, the head of their parliamentary group, from among their senior members succeeding in holding their seats.

Diplomatic balm for Israel

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, June 22

Mr. Saad Morada, the Egyptian Ambassador, confirmed in a broadcast on 'The Voice of Israel' today that his Government had rejected the Israeli demand for a ceasefire after the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

But, he said, this would not affect peace between the countries.

Mr. Morada said visits by trade delegations had been cancelled but meetings in Cairo to discuss the establishment of a multi-national force for Sinai after the Israeli evacuation were on schedule because they were part of the peace process.

Officials in Jerusalem privately expressed annoyance over the slow-down in normalisation and at the criticism by Egyptian leaders.

However, no public statement has been issued.

A reporter suggested that the unwelcome discretion may have been inspired by the approaching elections since Mr. Begin's Likud Party has been brandishing peace with Egypt as the main achievement of the outgoing administration.

The Labour Opposition, however, picked up the issue: "We're left with the no-war part of the treaty... the Sinai evacuation and the great challenge, the great reward for Israel was to be the creation of human relationships in trade and culture," Mr. Abba Eban, the foreign affairs spokesman, said. "That part we're not getting."

Mr. Eban said President Sadat was under heavier Arab pressure than he admitted, not so much because of the attack but because Mr. Begin had invited him to a summit shortly before the attack and then made the ridiculous statement that they had reached agreements which were secret, the import of which would become known soon.

This had forced Mr. Sadat to defend himself against charges of treachery to the Arab League.

Baghdad: The Speaker of the Iraqi Parliament today demanded sanctions by the Arab countries against the United States, including an oil boycott, the Iraqi News Agency said (UPI reports).

Mr. Naim Haddad, the Speaker, said the Arab League had been asked for a confrontation because of the "complete American partiality on the side of the Zionist enemy."

Political clash at last Unesco session

From Charles Hartgrove, Paris, June 22

Politics and ideology returned with a vengeance at the closing session of the Unesco conference of the International Council for the Development of Information (ICDI).

The occasion for this ideological passage of arms this morning was an attempt by the Group of 77—representing the included countries—to secure a condemnation of the Israeli raid on the Iraqi nuclear plant. The move was instigated by Iraq.

Although the objective of creating a new 'world information order' defined by the Belgrade general assembly of the organization last year, was charged with explosive politics, the conference had so far succeeded in concentrating on concrete means of helping the developing countries to achieve a more balanced flow of information and had sidestepped political confrontation.

The Western press came in for severe criticism from the Iraqi and other delegates of the Group of 77, who accused the Israeli initiative, and for its allegedly biased treatment of the work of the conference generally. It served to underline, in their view, the need to achieve the objectives for which the ICDI had been set up.

An article in the International Herald Tribune on Saturday, the Iraqi delegate pointed out, referred to differences of opinion within the Group of 77 on the ideological overtones of the 'new world information order'. There were none, and all members of the group were dedicated to achieving its objectives.

This inspired the Cuban delegate to declare: "If we give up our objective of creating this new world order, and of liquidating the so-called Marshall Plan, we are communicating to the world that we are conceding defeat." "We will be conceding even more than before by the forces of neo-colonialism in the field of information."

The Venezuelan delegate echoed these sentiments: "All the manoeuvres and distortions of the Western press are deliberately aimed at preventing a better balance and freer flow of information."

Mr. A. A. Krasikov, the Soviet delegate, attacked the group of seven industrialized Western countries in the council which, he claimed, had not shown any interest in the work of the council. One of them—the United States—had even said so openly.

"If the composition of the council had been different, and the problem before it had not been to set up a fund for mass communications, contributions would have been readily forthcoming from them," he said. "Money was always available for the arms race. We socialist countries support the efforts of Unesco to develop mass communications, and the attacks of some western press organs are aimed at deterring us from it."

This prompted Saudi Arabia to argue that the council should think seriously about drawing up a journalists' code of ethics, which was one of the recommendations of the MacBride commission report last year.

The leader of the United States delegation to the conference, referring to the draft paper condemning Israel, expressed regret that a group of member states should use the conference as a means of circulating a document which was outside the competence of its members.

"It is futile and inappropriate to raise issues in Unesco which are dealt with in other international organizations," he said. "It is inconsistent with the constructive spirit which has so far prevailed in the conference."

The United States had supported the conference in the hope that it would focus on the practical and concrete problems of developing countries' communications problems, he said. Today's discussion had strengthened the camp of the sceptics about IPDC in Washington.

Court allows suit against Nixon over phone tapping

Washington, June 22—An evenly split Supreme Court ruled today that former President Nixon may be sued for damages for allowing the tapping of an aide's home telephone.

The 4-4 decision, which allows the lower court ruling to prevail, also permits damage lawsuits against Mr. Nixon's assistants Dr. Kissinger and Mr. H. R. Haldeman, and against Mr. John Mitchell, the former Attorney General. They had been sued in the Federal Court here by Mr. Morton Halperin, who was an aide on the staff of Dr. Kissinger during the Nixon Administration.

Mr. Halperin's home telephone was tapped for 21 months when

White House officials suspected him of leaking foreign policy and defence secrets to the press.

The court, while allowing his case to go to trial, did not settle the basic constitutional question of whether the President and his closest advisers are immune to such damages when they violate someone's constitutional rights.

In fact, the court announced that it would review another test case raising that issue directly. The new case involves a \$3.5m (£1.7m) suit against Mr. Nixon and two other aides filed by Mr. Ernest Fitzgerald, who lost his Pentagon job after criticizing overspending.

Washington Star.

Young bank raider had chauffeur

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, June 22

Police here had to admit that as bank robbers go, William Swanson operated with great style and panache despite his tender years. The suspected bandit is only 15 but in less than a month he hit 11 financial institutions, riding from bank to bank in a chauffeur-driven limousine.

This week, he will go on trial for a string of holdups that allegedly netted him about \$4,500.

Investigators say that the young black suspect related a limousine with a uniformed chauffeur and drove to various banks in southern California. At the teller's window, he pretended he had a weapon and came away with amounts ranging from several hundreds to several thousand dollars.

Detectives labelled him "the limousine bandit" and when officers spotted the black Cadillac parked outside another bank they surrounded it. Swanson, in the bank at the time, spotted his reception party, calmly walked to a supermarket and called a taxi to make his getaway.

While officers were distracted, he ordered the cab driver to stop at two other banks at each of which he collected more loot. This time, officers pursued the taxi and arrested young Swanson who was sitting in the back seat, literally red-eyed, with a security pack among the stolen currency had exploded splashing him with red dye and tear gas.

Wayne Williams: Accused of murder in Atlanta

Atlanta, Georgia, June 22—Police here have refused to describe the black photographer, charged last night with murdering the last of the 28 young blacks killed in the Atlanta area over a 23-month period, as a suspect in the other murders.

Wayne Williams, aged 23, was accused of the murder of Nathaniel Carter, whose body was discovered on May 24 in the Chattahoochee River, west of Atlanta.

He had been questioned by police two days before Mr. Carter's body was found. He was taken into custody for further interrogation on June 3, but until last night authorities said there was not enough evidence to warrant an arrest.

Last week Mr. Williams sought injunctions against the media and police in an effort to escape the constant publicity that had surrounded him since his questioning.

Officials would not say what developments led to the decision to arrest Mr. Williams. Mr. Lewis Slaton, the Fulton County District Attorney, had previously said that evidence from fibres collected in a search of Mr. Williams's home, was not sufficient to charge him.

Although police refused to link Mr. Williams with the other murders, Mr. Slaton has said on several occasions that Mr. Carter's death was related to as

Atlanta suspect described as an intelligent loner

many as 13 of the 28 murders under investigation.

Like 15 other victims on the list, Mr. Carter had been asphyxiated. He was found nude, as were six other victims, and, like five others, he was found in the Chattahoochee River.

Aged 27, Mr. Carter was the oldest of the victims and he was also one of the biggest. Most of the others were slightly built and much younger.

Officials in the government and business community of Atlanta have reacted calmly to news of the arrest: "I'm overjoyed that we've made an arrest at this point. We're very grateful that the district attorney has moved," Mr. Mayor said.

Acquaintances describe Mr. Williams as an intelligent, but solitary person. The only son of a black middle class Atlanta family, he was called "brilliant" by one of his former teachers and "a loner" by a former classmate. His parents are both retired school teachers.

As a teenager, he spent much of his time building radios and other electronic equipment. He installed a shortwave radio in his car.

A hearing, initially scheduled for noon today, was delayed until 1 pm tomorrow, according to a lawyer representing Mr. Williams—Reuters, UPI and Agence France-Press.

Mintoff fails in plea to the EEC

From Michael Hornsby, Luxembourg, June 22

EEC foreign ministers turned a collective deaf ear here today to an appeal from Mr. Dom Mintoff, the Maltese Prime Minister, for more financial and commercial aid.

Mr. Mintoff, who had requested a meeting, repeatedly accused the Community of falling down on its obligations to Malta under the Treaty of Association signed in 1971.

"Not even the old gods of Olympus behaved with such careless condescension towards poor mortals," Mr. Mintoff declared. "For five years, the EEC had rejected every suggestion put forward by Malta for raising living standards closer to European levels."

What Malta was after, the Prime Minister said, was "a special relationship which goes beyond the ordinary membership but does not claim for the foreseeable future the full rights nor accept the corresponding full obligations of a member as defined in the Treaty of Rome."

With an eye to the political opposition at home, which has called for Malta's entry into the EEC, Mr. Mintoff said it was clear to "any impartial observer how quickly Malta's economic breath would be snuffed out if the economic membership were to take full effect."

One of Mr. Mintoff's main complaints was over the interest rates charged by the EEC on loans from the European Investment Bank, which are based on the going market rate. The Maltese Government, he said, was barred by law from accepting loans at rates higher than 3 per cent.

The EEC told Mr. Mintoff that they had no more money in the kitty to subsidize interest rates.

Mr. Mintoff fared little better in a separate meeting with Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary. The Prime Minister asked Britain to clear Valletta grand harbour of wrecks from the Second World War and to remove unexploded ordnance from the island of Filfla, once used by the British as a gunnery range.

Lord Carrington said Britain would consider the removal of individual wrecks but that the clearance of Filfla was not feasible at reasonable cost.

Democrats delay Reagan tax cut legislation

From Frank Vogt, Washington, June 22

House towards the end of July. "I think that is working at a feverish pace."

Committees of both houses must complete work on parts of the economic programme. Then Bills can be presented on the floors of each and conferences between Senate and House leaders can take place there after to reconcile differences.

Congressional leaders assured the White House in April that they planned to send economic Bills to the President for signing by early August. Now the timetable is slipping and the Republicans are becoming worried.

Senator Robert Dole, chairman of the Senate's finance committee, said Democrats in the House were trying to slow the passage of a tax Bill and the work on it was not completed by June 15, the date when the House and the Senate must complete work in Congress on a tax Bill before late September. He said he would like to get a Bill on the floor of the

Solar plane to try from Kent

Cornwallis-en-Vexin, June 22—Mr. Paul Macready, inventor of a solar-powered aircraft, has decided not to attempt a flight across the Channel from France but will bring the craft to Britain for a flight the other way.

Margaret Clarke, one of Mr. Macready's assistants, said the Solar Challenger would be taken by van to RAF Manston, near Canterbury, tomorrow and the flight might be tried on one of the next two days.

She said strong seasonal northerly winds that cut the Solar Challenger's effective speed over the ground to about 2 mph when flying south to north were the reason for Mr. Macready's decision, and that the flight should be easier to make north to south.

The Solar Challenger made a training flight of more than four hours today, but Mr. Stephen Pearce, the pilot, said it might be impossible to fly at an altitude of 10,000 ft because the winds were too strong, organizers said.

The original plan called for the Solar Challenger to make the 180-mile cross-Channel flight at an altitude of up to 14,000 ft because it sinks 100 ft a minute when not in direct sunlight. It is powered by a 27 hp engine that runs on electricity from 15,000 solar cells on its wings—UPI.

Socialists gain in Italian poll

Rome, June 22—The Italian Socialist Party made steady gains today in local elections involving nearly a quarter of the national electorate. The poll could help to determine the make-up of the next government.

The Communists kept control of Rome, but suffered setbacks in several areas, as did the Christian Democrats.

Nine million people were eligible to vote in 193 cities.

Final returns from Sicily gave the Christian Democrats 41.4 per cent of the vote, the Communists 20.7 per cent and the Socialists 13.6 per cent.

In regional elections in Sicily five years ago, the Christian Democrats took 40.8 per cent of the vote, the Communists 25.8 per cent and the Socialists 10.3 per cent.

The Socialists had hoped for a ripple effect from the landslide in the parliamentary elections in France, which could put them in a position to demand more Cabinet seats in the next Government.

Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the Prime Minister-designate, is trying to form a coalition of the Christian Democrats, Socialists, Social Democrats, Liberals and his own Republican Party. He is expected to announce his Cabinet later this week—AP.

THAI COUP LEADER RETURNS

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok, June 22

General Sant, Chulapim, who led the abortive coup in April, was greeted with flowers and applause when he returned to Thailand tonight. Some of his colleagues involved in the attempt were at the airport to welcome him back from Burma.

General Sant, aged 60, fled there after the coup failed. The Rangoon Government said he could stay provided he did not engage in activities against the Thai Government.

Since then he and everybody else involved in the insurrection have been pardoned. At the airport he said he loved being back and expressed gratitude for the pardon. He and other senior army officers who had been involved would seek an early audience with the King to show their devotion to the monarchy.

Begin says missile crisis was screen for Iraq raid

From Christopher Walker, Tel Aviv, June 22

Israel radio reported today that Mr. Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, had told members of the Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee that his earlier harsh statements about the Syrian missiles in Lebanon had been intended to divert a diversion before the attack on Iraq's nuclear reactor on June 7.

He indicated that, at present, Israeli intelligence activities were not impeded by the presence of the missiles and that if they were he would immediately give the order to attack the sites. Mr. Begin said opposition to the Syrian missiles in Lebanon had been intended to divert a diversion before the attack on Iraq's nuclear reactor on June 7.

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The Government's view was that the Syrian missiles in Iraq had been intended for military purposes.

Delhi satellite DEVELOPS SNAG

Delhi, June 22—India's Apple communication satellite developed a snag today when it lost part of its power supply.

One of its solar panels failed, but mission control at Sriharikota Island, in the Bay of Bengal, was trying to reanimate it, officials said. The craft was put into orbit by the European Ariane rocket, which was launched from French Guiana on Friday—Reuters.

Begin says missile crisis was screen for Iraq raid

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Solar plane to try from Kent

Cornwallis-en-Vexin, June 22—Mr. Paul Macready, inventor of a solar-powered aircraft, has decided not to attempt a flight across the Channel from France but will bring the craft to Britain for a flight the other way.

Margaret Clarke, one of Mr. Macready's assistants, said the Solar Challenger would be taken by van to RAF Manston, near Canterbury, tomorrow and the flight might be tried on one of the next two days.

She said strong seasonal northerly winds that cut the Solar Challenger's effective speed over the ground to about 2 mph when flying south to north were the reason for Mr. Macready's decision, and that the flight should be easier to make north to south.

The Solar Challenger made a training flight of more than four hours today, but Mr. Stephen Pearce, the pilot, said it might be impossible to fly at an altitude of 10,000 ft because the winds were too strong, organizers said.

The original plan called for the Solar Challenger to make the 180-mile cross-Channel flight at an altitude of up to 14,000 ft because it sinks 100 ft a minute when not in direct sunlight. It is powered by a 27 hp engine that runs on electricity from 15,000 solar cells on its wings—UPI.

Socialists gain in Italian poll

Rome, June 22—The Italian Socialist Party made steady gains today in local elections involving nearly a quarter of the national electorate. The poll could help to determine the make-up of the next government.

The Communists kept control of Rome, but suffered setbacks in several areas, as did the Christian Democrats.

Nine million people were eligible to vote in 193 cities.

Final returns from Sicily gave the Christian Democrats 41.4 per cent of the vote, the Communists 20.7 per cent and the Socialists 13.6 per cent.

In regional elections in Sicily five years ago, the Christian Democrats took 40.8 per cent of the vote, the Communists 25.8 per cent and the Socialists 10.3 per cent.

The Socialists had hoped for a ripple effect from the landslide in the parliamentary elections in France, which could put them in a position to demand more Cabinet seats in the next Government.

Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the Prime Minister-designate, is trying to form a coalition of the Christian Democrats, Socialists, Social Democrats, Liberals and his own Republican Party. He is expected to announce his Cabinet later this week—AP.

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Gary's For Steel P Kellars (20-1)
 Time Table ... E Hilde (15-1 fav)
 TOTL: Win. \$1.71; 1st place. 40
 2nd place. 170; 3rd place. 69.14
 4th place. 22.50; 5th place. 11.25
 6th place. 5.62; 7th place. 2.81
 8th place. 1.41; 9th place. .71
 10th place. .35

5.18 (5.18) MEXBOROUGH STAKE
 (Heldens: \$590. 1m)
 FOOTBALL: 1st D. C. GORR
 2nd J. MORTER (11-10 fav)
 3rd B. B. HARRIS (10-1)
 4th J. S. SENGRAVE (10-1)
 5th J. S. SENGRAVE (10-1)
 6th J. S. SENGRAVE (10-1)
 7th J. S. SENGRAVE (10-1)
 8th J. S. SENGRAVE (10-1)
 9th J. S. SENGRAVE (10-1)
 10th J. S. SENGRAVE (10-1)

TOTL: Win. 16p; place. 22p, 28p
 3p; 4p. 65p; 5p. 61p
 6p. 50p; 7p. 40p; 8p. 30p
 9p. 20p; 10p. 10p

The fastest, easiest way to find the tastiest raspberry jam in town

Is there any use for a guide to good food shops in Britain? Susan Campbell believes there is and, after months of work and filing cabinets full of correspondence, she has published the second edition of such a work.

She aims to list "the sort of shops which people who care about food will go to of their own accord". She ignores the big supermarket chains "not because I do not use them but because I've not yet found anyone in a supermarket who could give me the time of day, let alone any first-hand expert advice."

And she quotes Elisabeth Ayton: "It is impossible to take too much trouble over finding shops which sell food of top quality."

So I put Mrs. Campbell, a few of her shops, and through them her book, to the test. Does food from good food shops actually taste any better than food from supermarkets? I recruited an expert to help me find out. Bravely Mrs. Campbell herself agreed to come to the blind tasting I devised, with items from the shops she recommended to be pitted anonymously against similar products from the supermarket shelves.

The others in the panel were Shona Crawford Poole, *The Times* cook; Jane MacQuitty of *Wine and Food*, winner of two Glenfiddich wine and food writing awards, who came to us fresh from judging the *salon culinaire* in the Channel Islands; and Alan Davidson, ex-journalist, author of *North's*, a food and drink guide, who was also a member of the panel.

At the start of the tasting, we were given a little so that it should not be immediately obvious which had come straight out of plastic wraps. But there was nothing we could do about the appearance of the jam pies, and I did not sponge the jams.

In some cases there was no doubt. The panel unanimously hailed Hobbs' hand-made raspberry jam (£1.75 a lb) — "super... delicious... wouldn't be ashamed to have this on my breakfast table" — and exoriated Sainsbury's

pure fruit (35p) — "sickly goo... dreary... spat this out". But opinions divided about Fortnum and Mason's raspberry preserve (30p). "You would eat it along time before you thought of raspberry", admitted Mrs. Campbell.

In strawberry conserve, Fortnum and Mason's (50p) disposed easily of "sickly sweet" offerings from Marks and Spencer (55p) and Sainsbury (49p for 12ozs) although the panel were divided about whether one of those was nastier than the other, and if so which.

In smoked fish the supermarkets, represented by Sainsbury, had little to offer. Their kippers (85p a lb) were left for dead by far weightier contenders from Harrods (£1.25 a lb, collecting one first preference) and Steve Hatt of Islington (£1.10 a lb voted top by three). Shona Crawford Poole showed some sympathy: "poor little female, just laid roe — no flesh to her," but Susan Campbell wrote: "Enough to put you off kippers altogether."

For Sainsbury's smoked trout the only comfort was that Alan Davidson preferred it to Steve Hatt's rather aggressively flavoured version (88p). The Sainsbury fish had been reduced to 49p for quick sale, but Susan Campbell described it as "hot worth buying" anyway. When six pork pies to choose from, three of the panel plumped unerringly for Harrods (55p a ½ lb). Jane MacQuitty, though, went for Sainsbury's Natures Pork (24p, on special offer) with Marks and Spencer's Crisp Bake (also Alan Davidson's second choice, 27p, also on special offer) as runner-up.

In the book, Susan Campbell notes that matters of taste are not easy: "Pork pies given a skull and crossbones by one contributor tasted like ambrosia to me." So it was not altogether surprising that she dismissed Jane MacQuitty's choice as a "rotten pie", while Jane MacQuitty called hers "horrible".

Something similar happened with the sausages. No two people liked the same thing. This time Jane MacQuitty chose two of the good food shop entries, Cumberland from Paxton and Whitfield (£1.12 a lb) and Old English from Hobbs (same price) in that order. Susan

Campbell chose a third, Fortnum and Mason Supreme (£1.50), which Jane MacQuitty described as "just like eating breadcrumbs and fat". While Alan Davidson, not liking much, opted for St Michael's Top Quality (92p a lb) as "possibly more unobtrusive" than Paxton and Whitfield's Tumbidge (£1.10). This last Susan Campbell found "revolting". No conclusions could be drawn from that, save that people's taste in sausages can vary greatly.

In the Cheddar cheese section, Paxton and Whitfield won universal praise (£1.76 a lb), although Shona Crawford Poole actually preferred the less sharp flavoured samples from Harrods (£1.22) and Sainsbury (£1.08). Jane MacQuitty voted the Sainsbury second, and Alan Davidson noted with some surprise "how little difference there seemed to be". A third good food shop sample, from Mainly English (£1.60), impressed no one.

The supermarkets, or at least Marks and Spencer, pulled back in hams. St Michael's Italian Dried Cured (35p an ounce) was a lovely revelation to everyone except Shona Crawford Poole, who recognized it. "I buy it", she explained. Jane MacQuitty and Alan Davidson respectively found Marks and Spencer's other offering, Smoked Spiced Ham (72p a quarter) "delicious" and "excellent".

No one had a good word to say for Sainsbury's "waterlogged, fibreless" gammon ham (55p a quarter) or Sainsbury's Roast "ham-wetters" ham (50p), but then Susan Campbell wrote of Paxton and Whitfield's Bradenham (£1.10): "Apologies if this shop is in the Guide." Jane MacQuitty claimed to detect a strong taste of parmesan cheese about this ham, dry and salty ham, suggesting the two had been stored together.

Paxton and Whitfield may just redeem their place in the book, because Susan Campbell voted their York ("it would still be nicer if sliced rather than 80p a quarter) equal with the Marks and Spencer prosciutto. The others were less enthusiastic. Jane MacQuitty said it was "dried-up and over-cooked".

Next came the morning's main surprise. Everyone put one of the cheapest pâtés, Sainsbury's pepper and mushroom from the delicatessen counter (25p a quarter, on special offer) at the top of the list. Jane MacQuitty said it was the only one of the seven she would eat, and all the others agreed it was good. Susan Campbell just saved herself by saying that Hobbs' chicken and beefy pâté (at £2.95 a pot) was good, but the others did not agree. "Tastes more like corned beef than anything else", said Jane MacQuitty, and Shona Crawford Poole complained of "nasty, funny spices and anchovy".

That just left as a *bonne bouche* a small class for assorted trifles, in which Clara's hand-made (£2.60 a half-pound) had a narrow win over Marks and Spencer (£1.65). Jane MacQuitty actually preferred the latter, and Susan Campbell admitted they looked better.

The overall result was a points win for the good food shops, but not a knockout, for the good food shops over the supermarkets. Very probably the guide's usefulness would have been more clearly vindicated if it had been logistically possible to gather samples outside London. Yet clearly one could not rely on getting satisfactory food just because the shop supplying it features in the book, and also, of course, the supermarkets were not completely disgraced.

Perhaps the saddest lesson is the one pointed by Jane MacQuitty. "All in all, this rather sorry selection does not say much for either our supermarkets or our delicatessen. The French housewife can easily resort to the corner shop without damaging her reputation as a good cook. The British sadly cannot, but must shop around or make it herself."

The book may help in the hunt for quality foods, or at least in locating the more elusive ingredients if we are driven to home cookery. May it sell well, be used with caution and provide a lot more reports from an increasingly discriminating public.

'Guide to Good Food Shops', edited and compiled by Susan Campbell, Macmillan, £4.95.



Susan Campbell... seeking out the best from the food shops.

ERIC HILL



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DOLL: 400.3, 400.4, 400.5, 400.6, 400.7, 400.8, 400.9, 401.0, 401.1, 401.2, 401.3, 401.4, 401.5, 401.6, 401.7, 401.8, 401.9, 402.0, 402.1, 402.2, 402.3, 402.4, 402.5, 402.6, 402.7, 402.8, 402.9, 403.0.

SALE: 54in Swiss Printed Cotton Jersey at £3 per yard plus 100s of yards of beautiful fabrics at silly prices. Starts today 23rd JUNE. Jacob Gordon Ltd., 19, South Molton St. London, W1. Personal callers only.

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Beach beauty by Suzy Menkes

Have you noticed the fading of an all-over tan?

A suntan, like the contraceptive pill, is no longer considered an unmitigated blessing. The idea that brown is beautiful was closely linked to the sexual revolution of the Sixties. The girl with the sun-kissed skin and windswept blonde hair was not just the siren of the holiday brochures, but also the image of liberation. Now those golden girls have grown up and grown older. The side-effects of sun worship may not have been as widely publicized as problems with the Pill, but the effect of sun on skin is written out in wrinkles.

In America, warnings about excessive sunbathing are now issued by the experts, who talk openly about skin cancer and other sun-related problems. Since a whole section of the beauty industry has followed the sun, it is unwilling to relinquish a massive market and the emphasis is on caring for your suntanned skin.

In Britain the situation is different. The sun shines so infrequently that our problem is rather how to cope with the sudden bursts of brilliance on a rare weekend or a brief summer holiday.

Protection

The message that sunshine is good for you still beams brightly from those beauty firms involved only in suntan preparations. The Australian firm of Piz Buin claims the credit for having invented the "sun protection factor system", which is now the keystone of all

suntan preparations. Tanning is simply the body's natural defence against the sun's harmful rays, so it follows that the strongest shielding product at the start of exposure. A tough olive skin needs less protection than the traditional English rose. Thus most suntan preparations are now coded with protection factors, from two (the least protective) to eight, although specialist products go up to factor 15.

Bergasol make their product (based on the bergamot oil contained in citrus fruit as a natural aid to tanning) in an oil, gel, lotion or cream and have a facial tanning gel (£3.30) in their extensive range. They, like the other leading French brand Ambre Solaire, realize that consumer demands of suntanners are infinitely more sophisticated than in the days when a dab of coconut oil went on protruding spots.

Ambre Solaire still sell their Original Sun Tan Oil (£2.25) with its distinctive fragrance reminiscent of the Côte d'Azur to an entire generation of suntanners. But now they have a wide range of other products, like their Sun Tan Milk (protection factor six for children and the fair skinned), and their newly introduced Tropical Milk (£3).

Cover up

The skin-care companies take a line exactly opposite to the suntan houses. The American Erno Laszlo says unequivocally that "the way to retain a good skin is to cover up from the sun". Their basic make-up is apparently 99 per cent sun-proof and the oil they offer to unwise sunbathers is still 40 per cent protective.

An anti-sun sport cream, designed to block out sun during active outdoor games, has been introduced by the French firm of Roc, who also say that the sun is "basically harmful to the skin". Skin-care specialists Vichy not only speak of "serious dermatological problems" for sunbathers, but actually discount many suntan products, particularly the oils, which they claim have a very low protection factor and are popular because "the reflection of sun on an oiled body gives the illusion of a deeper tan". Their own range has only milks or creams.

Most beauty firms in this country never utter the frightening words "skin cancer". Orlane, however, quotes an international board of experts that "over-exposure to the sun can cause premature aging of the skin and skin cancer". (Copperstone won an award from the Skin Cancer Foundation of the United States for their research work. Their Super Shade 15 lotion, with a protection factor of 15, is on sale at pharmaceutical counters.)

Protection creams for sensitive areas like breasts (for nipple bathing), for the back and for the face are all based on the twin principles of filtering the sun's harmful rays and on moisturizing the skin, in the Orlane range.

Science

Moisturizing is the essence of the French approach, because Continental women have traditionally looked after the skin. There is an emphasis on moisturizing in Germaine Monteil's Sunstive range, (which includes a pre-tan formula to use for a fortnight before departure, £5.50), in Lancôme's Hydra Brûlé creams and milks (with a tinted milk at £4.65), and in Harriet Hubbard Ayer's products, which include a useful Sun Eye Cream (£2.75).

The scientific approach to suntanning is emphasized by most of the leading beauty houses — a fact which will not surprise readers who remember my previous article on chemical beauty.

An alarming graph of the "emission curve of the sun" (it looks rather like a pair of pointed bottoms) has been produced by Ultima II to explain the technical basis of their scientific sun control. Their treatment system (containing the unpronounceable Algaephyre) is based on numerical protection factors and includes a Lip moisture stick (Piz Buin do another useful one.)

More graphic information about sun contamination comes from Helena Rubinstein, whose Golden Beauty Suncare collection has a suntan acceleration face cream (£4.25) and lotions (£4.75). Clinique also have a Suncare Encourager, but their emphasis is rather on their sunscreen, like the Sun Block cream for face and body and Their own range has only milks or creams.

Make-up by Mary Lou for Harriet Hubbard Ayer using their tinted moisturizing day cream to protect the skin from the sun's harmful rays and pearly waterproof eye shadows.

Photograph by Richard Imrie

Running the entire gamut of products from the total block to the Self-Action tanning cream (the theme of the Este Lauder sun collection. But significantly the newest product is the Sun Cover Creme (£5), which offers maximum protection (factor 15). It would be a beauty firm that announced now that it was encouraging an all-out tan.

Elizabeth Arden acknowledges the continuous urge to turn brown with the Progressive Tans range of facial cooling products. Charles of the Ritz have an Ultra Sun Block cream (£4.75) with a protection factor of 22.8.

Having studied the claims and tried out the products as best one can under leaden skies, I conclude that the best sun-protection factor is common sense. It is crucial to go away armed with a selection of products to lubricate face and body, to protect sensitive areas like nose and knees that catch the sun and to understand your own skin type and know what it will tolerate. A moisturizing after-sun lotion will help to prevent dryness (but you will still peel if you have burnt).

Nothing can prevent your tan's fading once you are out of the sun, although you can apply products that work chemically to retain the illusion of a tan. It is wise to buy all your products from one range, rather than mixing creams on one skin area.

I shall spend my own holiday under a shady tree tanning slowly as nature intended.

Taking cover from the sun in Paul Horst Australia swimsuit £28.50, gold on black, blue, khaki, brown or orange, from Howie, 138 Long Acre, London WC2. Way in at Harrods, Knightsbridge, Harvey Nichols of Knightsbridge, Teatime at St Christopher's Place, W1, and Lucinda Byre of Liverpool, Manchester, Chester and Blackpool. Apricot-print kimono £34.50 in assorted colours by Paul Horst from Howie, Teatime and Harvey Nichols. Stimulated coral resistance £24.50 by West from main department stores. Shell necklace £7.95 from Fenwick of Bond Street.

Hair by Paul at Daniel Galvin

Make-up by Mary Lou for Harriet Hubbard Ayer using their tinted moisturizing day cream to protect the skin from the sun's harmful rays and pearly waterproof eye shadows.

Photograph by Richard Imrie



Dressing up to a suntan means picking the boldest jewelry and strong make-up to set against simple summer clothes. The baubles and bangles of high summer come straight from a picture postcard vision of a tropical isle. Shell necklaces as large as a big bone beads and the obligatory string of stick coral or shark's teeth, all look splendid against a pale T-shirt and a bronzed skin.

Make-up artist Francine used three different shades of green and a dark green eyeliner pencil to give a sense of the watery depths to our model's eyes. Using cosmetics from the Mami African Sands range, on a No-shine foundation, she also used three different blushers to shade the cheeks, from a tawny shade to a pinky blusher.

Although most women have now got the hang of using a battery of brushes to apply colour, few realize that mixing and blending colours is essential for the currently fashionable face.

This summer's beauty ranges have been developed to go with the safari and copper colours of clothing. The leading cosmetic houses have done a lot of the work for us, by producing two, three or even four pan eye colours which are meant to be used together.

The system of blending or smudging colours applies equally to women who have abandoned the wider African image in favour of the romantic white ruffles of the (royal) English rose.

Pre-tan product

Also called self-tan. Gives the look of suntan but does not generally contain a sunscreen. Used for cosmetic reasons on celery white limbs or fill in white strap patches. Must be used in the sun in conjunction with screening creams.

Sun protection

Products filter the sun's more harmful ultra-violet rays. They come in oils, creams or milks and are what we describe as suntan preparations. Today's ranges are almost all coded by the "factor" system.

Sun screens

Also known as sun block. Creams as above, but designed to block completely the sun's harmful (and therefore tanning) rays. The most effective of these creams are available at pharmaceutical counters, although a few of the most comprehensive suntan ranges have them. They must be used frequently to be effective.

Suntan encouragers

Also known as speed-ups. Products supposed to encourage a tan by speeding up the natural melanin production of the skin. Mostly in gel or oil form with low protection factor.

After Sun

Body moisturizers designed to discourage peeling. But most do not have a burn soothing agent, for which you will need a pharmaceutical cream. Boots sell Solarcaine cream, lotion and aerosol spray designed to give instant local relief for sunburn.

Gorgissima

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Summer sale starts
Thursday, June 25th

Ribbed cotton windcheater with striped lining £73 in khaki, red or grey. T-shirt £9, sky shorts £22, belt £3, all by Daniel Hechter of 105 New Bond Street, London W1. Just Jackie of Leicester, Scotts of Cheltenham, Polyvaria of Barnsley and Lucy Reynolds of Stroudbury. Evening frock a selection at Cassio 24 Rose Street, WC2. Disc necklace (worn on forehead) £8.50 by Adrien Mann from a selection at Selfridges and major department stores nationwide. Shell necklace £1.50, disc on leather thong necklace £9.95, both from Fenwick of Bond Street. Shell and raffia necklace £8.50 and mixed shell necklace £5.50, both by Adrien Mann. Stockists as above.

Hair by Clifford at Michaeljohn

Make-up by Francine for Maxi

Photograph by Serge Krougloff



Make-up by Mary Lou for Harriet Hubbard Ayer using their tinted moisturizing day cream to protect the skin from the sun's harmful rays and pearly waterproof eye shadows.

Photograph by Richard Imrie

THE ARTS

Galleries

Astonishment and delight in Renaissance riches

Objects for a "Wunderkammer"

Colnaghi

Important Italian Baroque Paintings 1600-1700

Mattheisen Fine Art

Art as Decoration

Heim Gallery

Twentieth Century British Paintings and Watercolours

Spink

Leslie Hurry, Artist of Dream and Theatre

Browse and Darby

Julian Trevelyan

Holsworthy Gallery

When the more traditionally-minded of the West End galleries decide to show off, as seems to happen these days, by some kind of unspoken agreement, around the middle of June each year, the result is likely to be spectacular: at the moment it is as if much of the St James's Bond Street area has been turned, to misappropriate a term from the title of Colnaghi's show, into one big Wunderkammer, where the riches of the Renaissance and after are displayed like the contents of so many jewel caskets, snapped open with a flourish for our astonishment and delight.

The introduction to the lavish catalogue which accompanies Colnaghi's *Objects for a "Wunderkammer"* exhibition (until July 31) raises, naturally, the question of what exactly the term means. Basically it stood for a collection of remarkable objects, the beautiful, the rich and the strange competing on almost equal terms for attention. In this sense, as in others,

the Wunderkammer was the precursor of the modern museum, where beauty, if an important factor, by no means the sole criterion for inclusion. Renaissance princes and their successors up to the beginning of the eighteenth century required various things of their collections. First and foremost, they should surprise by fine craftsmanship and they should be rare and valuable and impressive, dramatizing the idea of power and position by demonstrating that their owners could easily possess much beyond the reach of lesser mortals. But also, to be fair, they should, if only incidentally, extend and illuminate man's knowledge of man and the world about him.

One did not need to be rich, of course, to fulfil this latter function: John Evelyn's cabinet curiosities, now in the Geffry Museum, attest to much. But, to own most of the objects on show at Colnaghi, you would have had to be very rich indeed. Even the simple curiosities, such as the rhinoceros horn held up by three gilt bronze harpies, had the magic of rarity in the West and tended to be displayed with maximum ostentation. Religious significance, such as attached to a fragment of St Joseph's cloak, often seemed to take second place to the magnificence of its setting — in this case a splendid reliquary of lapis-lazuli, rock crystal and silver gilt, made for Pope Alexander VII and attributed to Antonio de Amicis Moretti. Shown visual splendour of materials, as in the oval bowl of

heliotrope from the Milanese workshop of Ottavio Miseroni (later in the collection, not surprisingly, of William Beckford) counted for much, intricacy of workmanship, as in the innumerable rings and pendants and caskets and time-keeping devices, for even more.

And beauty? That is, there, too, though usually an intricate, hard-won beauty rather than the sort of the inevitable-looking sort. For that one must look mainly to the oriental objects, particularly the porcelains and small carvings in semi-precious stones, prized no doubt by their early owners for exoticism rather than aesthetic value. (Incidentally, the "adjacent" show, *Gods, Goddesses and Elephants* at Colnaghi Oriental, until July 17, is well worth a few minutes of your time.) But some of the waxes, medallions and small bronzes like the *Boys Playing Sackmazzone*, once in the collection of Louis XIV, are beautiful by any standards you care to apply.

Nor were paintings, if not necessarily the central interest of such collections, automatically excluded, as Erienne de la Haye's painting of the *Kunstammer of Prince Vladimir Sigmundus Vasa* reminds us, mixing up in a happy jumble Rubenses and Breughels with metalwork, jewelry and orientalia. I suppose the paintings in the show, *Important Italian Baroque Paintings 1600-1700*, which opens Mattheisen's imposing new three-floor premises in Mason's Yard, St James's (until July 31), are mostly a deal too important to have decorated a Wunderkammer, many must have been designed for large churches or stately halls. However, even here there are enchanting touches of intimacy: a lovely little landscape panel by Ciccio. Bravo, for example, which has about it an almost Watteau-like touch of romantic melancholy and magic, or two pairs of still-lives, one by an anonymous Caravaggesque artist and the other by Miao of c. 1625.

Still-life and pure landscape played a lesser, and still insufficiently explored, role in Italian Baroque painting. But a number of the paintings on show occupy themselves, surprisingly, with the more bloodthirsty episodes of the Bible and the lives of the saints (anyone who suggests that the present popularity of the violent horror film is a particularly novel and therefore disturbing trend should look here for a corrective insight). We encounter, in rapid succession *David with the Head of Goliath* (Dolci), *Salome with the Head of John the Baptist* (Matta Preti), *Jael cheerfully driving a tent-peg into Sisera's ear* (Guidobono), the scourging and mocking of

Christ, and more stages in the martyrdom of St Sebastian than you could aim an arrow at. Though the most discreet of them, Giovanni Lanfranco's *St Sebastian Carried to Heaven by Three Angels*, merely alludes to the facts of the case by making a putto carry two arrows which, in other circumstances, might be no more than Cupid's darts.

Occasionally these paintings turn to less startling subjects, and when they do the effects can be superb. There is, for instance, a very fine Ross, *A Landscape with Travellers Asking the Way*, which aims to charm us by its atmospheric grace rather than giving us a frisson of pleasing horror. Guerrier's *Return of the Prodigal Son* emphasizes the emotional nature of the meeting with a restless composition reconciling, though only just, contrary movements within the frame. And Greguccio's *God Creating the Animals* presents God as a kindly, unimposing presence surrounded by a glad and delightfully various creation. Such pictures are still easier for us to take than the sentimental/emotional excesses of the baroque, but a series of illuminating exhibitions in London during the last two years has been persuading us, slowly but surely, to habituate ourselves even to these.

Heim, this year, in its show *Art as Decoration* (until August 28), explicitly aims at the lighter, easier-to-take end of the artistic spectrum. Most of the paintings and sculptures shown date from between the beginning of the eighteenth century and the end of the nineteenth. Decorative canvases clearly meant for over-doors or to be inset somehow into rococo or neo-classical rooms evoke the amours of Zeus, propose allegorical scenes like *Genius Urging On the Virtuous Prince*, or set nymphs and shepherds in arcadian landscapes, hunters among decorative scroll-work. The major discovery of the show is John Francis Rigaud's *Constance Rescued Herself to Her Father*, recently identified from a related engraving in Macklin's *British Poets*; the most provocative works are a pair of overripe allegories (of Rome and Venice, the latter particularly fierce-looking female) by Julius Victor Berger, disciple of Makart and lavish in the use of gold leaf and other naive but effective devices to impress. Are they more than costume and set designs from nearly all his major productions (only Helpman's *Hamlet* ballet is missing) as well as a selection of his less familiar independent watercolours. At his best, Hurry was a fine draughtsman with a shimmering, slightly surreal sense of dramatic occasion: his designs for ballet, opera and costume play are

among the best to emerge from the 1940s, a decade which seems increasingly like a golden age of British theatre design. And unlike many such, they stand up triumphantly as self-defining works of art, with no need of support from fading memories of how it all looked on stage. And at Holsworthy (until July 11) is a show of recent work, paintings and coloured etchings, by Julian Trevelyan. My inclusion of him among the Neo-Romantics seems to have raised a few eyebrows, but at the time he was undoubtedly very close to them in style and subject-matter. You would never know it now, as he has continued to evolve almost unrecognizably. These most recent works are in a neo-primitive style which seems, especially when the subjects are sailing ships or seashore scenes, to owe a lot to Alfred Wallis and his more sophisticated admirers, such as Ben Nicholson and Christopher Wood. These works are painted in bold, simple and sometimes not very appealing colours with the emphasis on rather harsh blues and greens: they show a now senior painter (Trevelyan is 71) who is not afraid to do something different. If we like them, fine; if not, well, they are more important things than that in a painter's life.

At Browse and Darby is a small but surprisingly comprehensive tribute to Leslie Hurry, artist of *Dream and Theatre* (until Saturday) which includes costume and set designs from nearly all his major productions (only Helpman's *Hamlet* ballet is missing) as well as a selection of his less familiar independent watercolours. At his best, Hurry was a fine draughtsman with a shimmering, slightly surreal sense of dramatic occasion: his designs for ballet, opera and costume play are

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John Russell Taylor

Books

Bath

A Social History 1680-1850

By R. S. Neale

(Routledge & Kegan Paul, £18)

The fundamental defect of this long, expensive book is that it is dull, something that no historical work, least of all one about Bath, need or should dare to be. It is also contemptuous of received practice in respect of received punctuation and grammar, an attitude which undermines the reader's confidence that the author knows what he is about.

What makes a history dull? Professor Neale has made it so by presenting us with a great many statistics and drawing inferences from them which, as he says himself many times, often cannot be substantiated because of lack of corroborative evidence. He provides rows and rows of commodity prices, and toll-gate receipts, and average wages, and court records, and bedtimes, and the like. He even gives twice over the same list of titled folk attending social functions. But he fails to supply the information — comparisons with other cities, other times, other places — which these figures some meaning.

Nor is that all. It seems that a social history has to have some sort of message for today; which consideration leads Professor Neale into abstractions about the nature of the struggle for property, and the origins of the class struggle which would have made any self-respecting 18th-century artisan drop his hod, sack, and muckrope, depending on his calling, and run for the nearest inn. At one point, if I have understood him aright, the author is implying that Bath's own outbreak of Gordon Riots against the Poor Law, the cause of Popery at all. He refers repeatedly to something called "the social organization of space" (how reminiscent of Le Corbusier's "machine à habiter" which is to live!) and to the "anomie" of the developing market society. I must say, as one who is always interested in learning something new about Bath, it leaves me pretty cold.

Let me make one particular case where I find the argument inadequate. The suggestion that, because Ricardo found *The Wealth of Nations* in a Bath bookshop, Bath might be regarded as having given birth to the economic theory of the free market. The assertion that in Bath "income was very unevenly distributed" (no doubt) is followed by the satisfying disclaimer that there is no way of knowing what share of this high average income was retained by the various social groups. (Why not? You mean it may not have been very uneven after all?)

Similarly, it does not add much to say that Ralph Allen was an obscure boy of 17 (mesself); while the remark that John Wood the elder "was probably the son of a mason and a local boy who became a surveyor" needs a lot of working out. The career of a certain Mr Marchant is presented (page 56) as the case history of a typical local apprentice; but later (page 70) it is asserted that his experience was not that of most apprentices.

If all this is carping, I can only say that the further one reads the more one carps. I am surprised that Professor Neale has found so little useful social straw to make his bricks far less for instance, than Bryan Little or Sir John Summerson concentrating on Bath's architectural aspects more than 30 years ago. The lengthy disquisition on the financial dealings of the Duke of Chandos, unearthed in the Huntington Library, San Marino, California, might have been relevant, since the duke was John Wood's patron; but although California must have been a long way to go, in practice the relevance is not clear: the disquisition is simply a discursion.

Bath, to me, will never be "an existential expression of the economic and social structure of society and of its dominant ideology." I cannot see it in terms of the sociological jargon which permeates this study to the end. The book becomes more readable once Professor Neale reaches the 19th century and is able to draw on the local newspapers for his material; but at no time does it present any facet of a social picture of Bath or its environs so telling, or I suspect so accurate, as any of the single short chapters of *Pickwick* devoted to that city. I have just read them again to check. They are worth a dozen social histories. Remember how Mr Winkle got shut out of his lodgings in Royal Crescent in his nightgown when the door blew shut? Or Sam Weller's soirée? Bedtimes, forsooth.

Adam Fergusson

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THIRTEENTH NIGHT

Concerts in London

Mahler perched on a tightrope of suspense

Philharmonia/Ozawa

Festival Hall/Radio 3

Mahler, in his second symphony, had as much to say about silence as about sound. This is what Seiji Ozawa would have had us believe on Sunday in his unorthodox, often self-regarding, but unusually compelling interpretation of the work.

It was a performance whose minute attention to acoustic detail — realized through often exceptionally slow tempi, long-drawn pauses and climaxes and his galvanizing ability to draw the finest and most concentrated chamber playing from each section of the orchestra — was always perched on a tightrope of suspense, be it in emotional effect or, indeed, as to whether his risks would pay off.

The first movement march almost lost momentum, its lyrical passages still as in a numb-lament; but how much more interesting in contrast the shrieking torment of its climax. Here, as in the last movement, built with the same tense, long stretches of fine-etched sound and silence, the points of climax went straight to the pit of the stomach, which, in Mahler, is surely where they should go.

Because of the nature of the

first movement, the second seemed, fascinatingly, much less at odds with it than Mahler once feared. On Sunday its sweet recollections seemed frozen almost into immobility: this was no melancholy remembrance but rather a paralyzing sorrow articulated through strings playing of remarkable unanimity and conviction. And this, in turn, had its effect on the Scherzo, its own dance the more bizarrely distorted, its very pulse twisting and staggering in Mr Ozawa's hands.

Jessye Norman and Mr Ozawa played over-indulgently into each other's hands in an "Ulrich" of unnecessarily exaggerated expression: Miss Norman's richly sensuous, highly dramatic projection, though powerfully moving in the last movement, oppressed the simplicity of its prelude.

No chorus could, perhaps, have been better cast for Ozawa's last movement: the Philharmonia, who constantly take the prize for the most magically sustained "Aufsteigen", sang with a fine control of volume, pitch and texture, matched in quality and expressiveness by both the orchestra and by Miss Norman in her rich, eloquent, "O gläub'g! Sheila Armstrong was the soprano soloist.

Hilary Finch

Rhythmic liberties taken in pursuit of expression

Ilan Rogoff

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Devoting his recital to Brahms on Sunday afternoon, London-domiciled Israeli pianist Ilan Rogoff, was deeply aware of the warm romantic heart hidden beneath the composer's forbidding exterior. Though in pursuit of expression he took rhythmic liberties less than stylish in so staunch an upholder of classical tradition, it was still difficult to remain untouched by playing so personally involved.

The F minor Sonata was of course written when Brahms was scarcely out of his teens, long before his public attack on all things progressive deemed by him to be wearing their hearts on their sleeves. But even this ardent, youthful outpouring, with its frequently requested tempo changes, needed a more firmly coordinated first movement.

The opening was splendidly majestic — that is, until the new first and bestium chordal theme, into which Mr Rogoff plunged at the double (or very nearly). Conversely, in the

development he allowed rhythmic tension to sag. The ensuing love song was done with intimate delicacy and poetry; but the sonata's second slow movement, the sorrowful Rückblick, was too elastic for the ominously reiterated rhythmic motif in the bass to tell.

Though accident-prone, Mr Rogoff found the Scherzo's strength, but in the finale again too often relied on tempo change for characterization, with a recklessly fast coda.

In the three Intermezzi, Op 117, he caught the essential note of emotion recollected in tranquillity. Possibly in the first in E flat, the broad song theme was insufficiently differentiated from the stealthy mystery of the middle section; the third in C sharp minor was particularly beautiful for shapely continuity of melodic flow whatever the surrounding texture.

The two Op 79 Rhapsodies chosen to end, though startlingly vivid in their mood contrasts, again revealed Mr Rogoff's over-reliance on tempo change to achieve his ends, with the turbulent first subject of No. 1 taken too fast for texture not to clot.

Joan Chissell

Opera

Ideal conception and performance for midsummer

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Glyndebourne.

The return of Benjamin Britten's music to Glyndebourne, after almost 35 years, must have been plotted with even more care than advance publicity campaigns — the perfect Britten opera for this Sussex countryside setting, opening on Midsummer Day itself. Sir Peter Hall and John Bury had directed and designed it with a full awareness of everything in Shakespeare's play, and Britten's setting of it, and an extra quality that can only be described as stage magic: the living face of enchantment.

The cast is an international one, a Romanian Tytania, a Dutch Theseus, a Swedish Bottom, among native English-speakers, and the text was as clearly and meaningfully enunciated, as well as sung, as anybody could wish.

The conductor is Bernard Haitink, a dedicated Britten interpreter of many years standing, who drew subtleties of colour and inflexion from the score, for example in the prelude to the second act, that I have heard in no other performance.

You may have read, in our arts supplement last Friday, how John Piper, the first designer of this opera, resolved to exclude green from his palette. So does Bury in this production, for the good reason that, even on Midsummer Night, nature's shades are black and white. Puck's hair is the only colour to be seen — until sunrise in the third act — when the forest resumes its natural green, though the floor remains black glass, reflective and usefully slippery.

Bury's forest is something wondrous to a dendrophile, the leaves on the trees perfectly detailed, the branches properly shaped, the quivering in a breeze, even the nocturnal illusion that trees sometimes move about — here they literally do so, because each is supported by an actor. When Hall wants the stage cleared, off they go, sideways or upwards.

Tytania's slumber, first alone, later with translated Bottom (any animal-lover would fall for the ass's head devised by Bury), always threatens to clutter a stage of modest size, still more at the end of the second act, when she is joined by two pairs of lovers. Hall disposes of the problem with a trap door through which the fairy queen and her assinine paramour descend, leaving the acting area clearer.

Puck's misreading of the rival lovers is ingeniously staged, first with quantities of light, then with a handkerchief, from which he mouths the answers which another sings from elsewhere.

Puck, in Britten's opera, is



Above: James Bowman (Oberon) and Damian Nash (Puck); below: Ileana Cotrubas (Tytania) with Curt Appelgren (Bottom).



not a treble choirboy, but an actor, agile, and strong in diction, a tough boy in personality. Damian Nash, who takes it here, is short, acutely expressive, almost the star of the show: I wish him a good career in the theatre. James Bowman's Oberon is well known by now, more convincing here than ever, and he has a paragon

queen in Ileana Cotrubas, whose vocal artistry fits her music and enhances it to exquisite purpose. The costumes are all Elizabethan, courtly for the fairies, bourgeois for mortals, even Theseus and Hippolyta. I was surprised that a log fire was needed on that Midsummer Night, for the theatrical enter-

tainment and its spectators. Britten's setting of *Pyramus and Thisbe* used to cause me acute embarrassment, of course, did the parody sound: Hall and Haitink, between them, show that it can look and sound acceptable, even enjoyable — that is a major triumph for this production.

Another is the treatment of

the four lovers, as Oberon finally causes them to become. Often they have looked, and their music sounded, stiff and unnatural. Here Cynthia, Bottom and Felicity Lott (the latter a convincing "maypole"), Ryland Davies and Dale Duesing, not only make their characters perfectly credible, but sing their music to genuine admiration: the canonic quartet, "And I have found Lysander" (or whomever) "like a jewel", as lovely as anything in the score, still clung the scene; but on a loftier level, because even the quarrel had brought the musical invention out of the doldrums, and sounded like strong dramatic stuff.

Hall's rude mechanicals are smartly handled, not completely individualized, though Patrick Power's Flute is at once cloth-headed and brilliant, and Curt Appelgren makes hay in the sunshine with Bottom the weaver, just the voice, and just the personality, genial, ambitious, tall, a keen mimic, a grand comedian. If anybody tells you that opera is not a branch of theatre, send them to this show, as complete a Shakespeare production as you might see anywhere, and set to mastery music as well.

William Mann



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STIFF TERMS FOR M MARCHAIS

The French elections have given President Mitterrand and the Socialist Party a position of power which appeared almost inconceivable a few months ago. The right has not only been evicted from the Elysée, which it had occupied for more than twenty years, but reduced to little more than half its representation in the National Assembly. On the left, the Socialists have become much the largest party, with an overall majority of 308 seats in the Assembly, while the Communists have suffered serious losses. The whole political landscape of France has changed.

The question now is what use Mitterrand and his party will make of this victory and, most immediately, whether they will agree to have Communists as members of the new government. Until quite recently it appeared most likely that the Socialists would not be able to win a majority on their own, and that they would have to come to some sort of accommodation with the Communists in order to get a majority for their legislation in the Assembly. But that is not the way things have turned out, and the Socialists are not now dependent on Communist votes.

The arguments against having Communists in the government are straightforward, and they are reinforced by the fact that the government can do without Communist votes. It is bound to be disturbing to France's allies. There would be doubts about how far France could be trusted in matters of security, especially if information on sensitive topics was likely to become available to Communist ministers. It could also be taken as a precedent for Communist participation, in spite of rather different circumstances, in the governments of Italy and Spain.

There would be fears that the Communists would influence French policies at home and abroad.

There are, however, arguments in favour of bringing the Communists in, which derive from the structures of French politics. The Communist Party has been an important factor in French life for many years, and a largely disruptive one. It has been the achievement of M Mitterrand to create a Socialist Party which has become more moderate than the Communists, and which has been able to win many years. Mitterrand has done this by constantly emphasizing the theme of unity of the left, which has meant that many voters who previously voted Communist have swung to the Socialists. If after being elected, he and the Socialists were to be seen to be excluding the Communists, and so acting against the unity of the left, they would lose these new-found supporters, especially if times became difficult for them.

It is after all extremely unlikely that the present popularity of the Socialists will continue indefinitely. They, and Mitterrand, have been elected because of a desire for change, and because they were seen as being moderate in their policies. There have been high expectations of improvements in living standards after the more difficult times at the end of M Giscard d'Estaing's presidency. But times are not easy for any of the western economies, and the likelihood is that the French Government will have to take measures to deal with inflation and other difficulties at some point. If the Communist Party was outside the government, it would be all too easy for it to take advantage of the discontent, and to wax eloquent about how the Socialists had

sold out to the right. Inside the government, it would have to share the responsibility for government policies.

The Communist Party has taken a serious blow in this year's elections. This is partly the result of M Mitterrand's strategy, and partly of the party's own changing policies in recent years, which has disgusted many of its supporters. An inquest will now be held and M Marchais's position will obviously come under questioning. But the party remains strong in the trade unions, and because they were seen as being moderate in their policies, and it is always a potential rallying point for discontent.

Everything will depend, therefore, on the terms on which Communists may be admitted to the government. They would have to accept Socialist policies in a number of areas in which there have been marked differences between the two parties. Externally, these include the robust line with the Soviet Union on such issues as Afghanistan, Poland and the SS20 missiles, and Socialist support for the Camp David agreement between Israel and Egypt. Domestically, there are differences about how many private concerns should be nationalized, and about the economic policies. The Communists would also have to give a plausible undertaking to observe government solidarity when unpopular measures are taken. The indications so far are that they are prepared to swallow their pride on much of this; and the Socialists are in such a strong position after the elections that they can drive a hard bargain — and it might be that at the end of the day the Communists would find the demands made of them too steep. That is a matter, for them.

MR FOWLER'S PRUDENT MOUSE

It is only with some gritting of the teeth that the Government has brought itself to back British Rail's electrification plans even to the extent announced by Mr Fowler yesterday. The idea of spending one's way out of recession goes too much against its instincts and it sees British Rail as the archetype of the obstinately inefficient nationalized industry which it wishes to expose to harsh economic reality, not load with fresh subsidies. So there was no unconditional commitment yesterday, and no blessing for any one of the five options for electrification put forward by British Rail. It is a considerable deflation of last week's hopes.

It is true that British Rail has been promising improvements in efficiency for years, with too little to show for it. Productivity improved at the slowish rate of five per cent a year throughout the 1960s, and then fell to five per cent over the entire following decade. The present plans assume a reduction in the workforce of one-sixth over five years — almost Minister's working the unfulfilled plan of five years ago. In spite of 20 per cent fare increases the network slipped back from profit into loss again last year. The attitude of the rail unions does not encourage optimism about future co-operation.

With unofficial strikes last month and threats this month from Mr Siddeigh Weighall, official strikes if the Government did not agree to a "miners-type" investment programme to buy them off.

Mr Weighall has not been given his "miners-type" programme. Quite rightly not, since his comparison implied spending to bolster areas of activity with no adequate prospect of economic or social rewards. His intervention must have made the Government more reluctant rather than less to underwrite an investment that might simply be poured away into the railwaymen's pay packets. Step-by-step monitoring of results is an essential safeguard for any commitment to restore the railways.

But given safeguards of that kind, the potential rewards are immense. Because of Treasury insistence that renewal must be paid for out of current cash flow — a demand it does not make for roads — the rail network has been starved of capital to the point where a sharp decline in efficiency will soon become inevitable as equipment simply wears out. This applies not only to lines carrying the potentially profitable inter-city services mentioned by Mr Fowler yesterday. An imaginative investment scheme

can have implications for morale and efficiency throughout the organization and support the railway manufacturing industry in its export efforts. And just as some trains are run as a public service, even though they can never be profitable, the benefits of the lines which can and should cover their costs are not limited to what shows up in the immediate profit and loss account.

A properly monitored investment programme promises environmental gains in switching traffic from road to rail, and an insurance against energy shortage, taking advantage of Britain's resources of coal and nuclear power. The effect on public spending will be less than railway accounts alone might suggest, because the work would provide custom for our increasingly efficient steel industry. And, in spite of the low credit that Keynesian ideas have with this Government, public investment in capital projects adding permanently to our industrial infrastructure is a valuable resource in time of recession. Railway electrification can be a classic example of that kind of enterprise. The Government is right to be concerned about safeguards, but if the Victorians had followed the same approach we would still be in the horse and buggy era.

Education and employment

From Mr M. J. Maguire and Mr D. N. Ashton

Sir, We read with interest your editorial of June 12 and Mr William H. Stubbs's letter (June 16) regarding the importance placed on educational qualifications by employers recruiting young people. Having recently completed a comprehensive study of employers' policies and practices in recruiting and selecting young people for employment, we would like to make the following points:

1. We found that in recruitment to a wide range of occupations, including many in the white-collar and skilled manual sectors, employers attach greater importance to "personal skills and qualities" than to academic qualifications. This was frequently true even when such qualifications were stipulated as a requirement of entry to a particular job, for although they may have secured the applicant an interview, the final decision was made on the basis of the candidates' personal qualities as reflected in their appearance, attitude to work, general behaviour, etc.

2. Contrary to popular beliefs about the raising of the level of qualifications demanded by employers, and the use of educational qualifications to restrict entry to a wider range of occupations, as claimed by Ronald Dore in *The Diploma Disease*, we found that notions of qualification inflation could only be applied to the higher end of the occupational scale, notably in the professional (Incidentally, we consider that the case presented by Ronald Dore constituted hypothesis rather than documentation.)

3. The praiseworthy efforts of Mr Stubbs to gain acceptance of "yuppie profiles" containing information about the non-academic qualities of young people will require a change in the attitude of employers to the school report. Of the 350 employers interviewed by us in our research, the great majority placed little or no reliance on school reports when assessing a young person's candidature.

4. Perhaps our most disturbing finding related to the enormous gulf between education and industry. Generally, employers perceived the educational system as being ignorant of the world of work and that it was all about a failure to produce the young people they required, not in terms of educational qualifications but precisely in terms of the attitude and values that employers would like them to consider. Our research indicates that it is the educationalists who tend to over-emphasize the importance of qualifications. Employers are much more sceptical about the value of qualifications and therefore are taken by both sides to gain a better understanding of each other's requirements and philosophies, for the benefit of the educational system, the employing community and, most of all, young people.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. MAGUIRE,
Research Associate,
D. N. ASHTON,
Senior Lecturer,
Department of Sociology,
The University,
Leicester.
June 17.

Maria's tragedy

From Mr Roger Gaitley

Sir, The Maria Mehmet inquiry (reported June 11) is an example of the failings in the present child abuse inquiry system. I speak as the social worker who had the initial task of co-ordinating actions taken over Maria St James's Hospital in January, 1978.

Witnesses, I feel, should have the chance to present evidence at the proof stage of any report. Two misrepresentations appear both in the inquiry report and your subsequent article. Firstly, although initial information on Maria was misleading, it was made by St Thomas's Hospital to retrieve this from King's College Hospital. Secondly the juvenile bureau were not involved because the Criminal Investigation Department in M. Dore (Southwest) advised that they were the appropriate branch to deal with. Excellent cooperation was subsequently established between police and social workers although there are feelings that the strength of police action was anti-therapeutic when considering any chance to rehabilitate Maria.

Furthermore, there is a strong case to show that these inquiries cause unnecessary suffering to the social worker involved. I am not wishing to evade individual responsibility but we must question whether the pilorying of social workers by media and society in such cases is helpful. After all, it was not the social workers who battered Maria. In this case the social worker, a man of absolute integrity and high professional standards, was placed by industrial circumstances and management failure in a situation that would have defied the strongest will. The current witch hunt by certain papers ignores the comment made in the report that there are bound to be inevitable effects on society if 150 social workers go on strike. Maria's tragic case contains many lessons for all to learn from. It raises moral dilemmas — for example, should social workers ever strike? I have no doubt that the social resources have been available to help Maria in her sad and limited life. The outcome would have been quite different.

In the final analysis enough good reputations have been ruined over the years by child abuse investigations. The Department of Health and Social Security must take responsibility and provide guidance and support to social workers. It is not enough for reports and their ramifications to become a fashionable pastime for a society that is all too voyeuristic and content to sit back and let social workers be its professional conscience and whipping boys at one and the same time.

Yours sincerely,
ROGER GAITLEY,
11 Swan Place,
Eilon,
Aberdeenshire,
June 12.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Concern over the Springbok tour

From the Acting High Commissioner for Tanzania

Sir, Your editorial of June 20 upholding the unfettered right of sportsmen in a democratic society to play with whom they wish, irrespective of consequences, may be academically laudable. It fails to recognize, however, that the proposed Springbok tour of New Zealand has occasioned intense concern not only in countries whose understanding of democracy you regard as less than perfect, but within New Zealand itself, the majority of whose population are reported to be opposed to the tour. Your concern to uphold the freedom of the individual, including the freedom to do wrong, in fact misses the legal and moral point of the present controversy by not addressing itself to its central issue — the issue of apartheid.

As you say, the more totalitarian the regime the more likely it is to be an integral part of its diplomatic initiative abroad. Exactly so. It is precisely because of this that the projected tour of New Zealand is seen by most of us and most certainly by South Africa as a serious breach of the international campaign against apartheid. The tour is not a political theory or interpretation of democracy, as your editorial implies, but the more fundamental moral issue of the gross and systematic denial by South Africa of the most basic rights and freedoms to the overwhelming majority of its citizens because of their colour. The world community has accepted a responsibility to work for their emancipation, and the Gleneagles Agreement was a Commonwealth contribution to this wider effort. When they made their mutual commitments, Commonwealth leaders were perfectly conscious that a balance would need to be struck between the

larger good and individual freedoms, but they were unanimous in their conviction that this would be done in such a way as to ensure that "there were unlikely to be future sporting contacts of any significance between Commonwealth countries or their nationals and South Africa".

As the Commonwealth Secretary General has pointed out, the proposed Springbok tour of New Zealand constitutes the most significant breach of the spirit of the Gleneagles. The point of the protests within and without New Zealand is whether the right balance has indeed been struck. That higher principles can be made to prevail where there is a will that they should be evidenced by the fact that Australia has made it clear that it will refuse even transit visas to the Springboks.

There is an offensiveness (whether studied or inadvertent does not much matter) in your assumption that Third World countries must either be naive or hypocritical. We are neither. But say in effect to the New Zealand rugby union: "What you propose to do is wrong, but be assured of your freedom to do it" will appear to us as a message that the effective fulfilment of the commitments of Gleneagles to stand against apartheid. Such a message of injured compliance brings comfort to us in Victoria, where the same kind of assurance that it seeks from the "free" world over a yet wider field of wrongdoing. It is certainly not a message you must expect to issue from today's Commonwealth.

Yours truly,
L. E. HOWELL,
Tanzania High Commissioner,
43 Hertford Street, W1.
June 22.

Strike threat at British Gas

From Mr Tim Eggan, MP for Enfield, North (Conservative)

Sir, Sir Denis Rooke's response (June 19) to your story (June 17) was disingenuous. The Monopolies Commission, after three years of study, stated clearly that the gas showrooms monopoly was against the best interests of consumers and gas appliance manufacturers.

As might be expected Sir Denis has always jealously defended British Gas's monopoly powers regardless of the national interest. However the tactics he has employed over the past weeks in defence of the retail monopoly have been both unexpected and unjustified. £2m of taxpayers' money has been earmarked for the massive showroom advertising campaign designed to gain public support for the monopoly. Alarmist and unsubstantiated comments have been made about the deterioration in safety standards if the monopoly were to be removed. Understandably employees and their unions have become concerned about the possible job losses.

Sir Denis has done nothing to allay that concern. Indeed he has stated that up to 40,000 jobs will be lost if the commission's "radical" proposal is followed. Yet the showrooms employ fewer than 3,500 people and the commission commented that the TUC widened of a 30,000 jobs loss was an extremely high estimate.

If a strike does occur in the gas industry Sir Denis will bear a great deal of the responsibility.

Yours faithfully,
TIM EGGAN,
House of Commons.
June 22.

Church treasures

From Mr J. W. S. Litten

Sir, Might I endorse Mr Paul Paget's letter (June 17) and go further in asking for qualified laymen to advise and assist archdeacons in the disposal of items from redundant churches? This lamentable and unenviable task is at present undertaken by diocesan furnishings officers, themselves often full-time workers whose qualifications for appointment have never been officially formulated by the church authorities, so doubtless there must be many cases of ignorance of value.

Due to paragraph 62(2) and 65(8) of the Pastoral Measure, 1968, too many items of great artistic and devotional importance, often given in trust to the Church, have been sold at auction or to the open market to the greater financial gain of dealers and the cultural impoverishment of the individual parishes concerned.

Surely a prime example of the Church's failure to birthright for a mess of pottage? Your faithfulness,
JULIAN W. S. LITTEN,
The Vicarage,
St Barnabas Road,
Walthamstow, E17.
June 17.

Lloyd's Bill

From the President of Wolfson College, Oxford

Sir, The reasons which led to a substantial majority of the Fisher working party to recommend that Lloyd's brokers should be required to have direct access to the ownership of managing agencies (Business News letter, June 1) are set out in chapter 12 of the report. The same considerations do not apply to links between members' agents and managing agents.

The possibility of action contrary to the interest of assureds (which was a powerful motive for our recommendations in chapter 12) does not arise. I believe that, if it became impossible for the same person, firm or company to act both as a managing agent and as a members' agent, so that it was no longer possible for managing agents to have direct access to the ownership of managing agencies, Lloyd's would suffer. Names would be deprived of the freedom which they now enjoy (and which they may well consider to be in their best interests) to put their affairs in the hands of an agency which has its own syndicates.

Incidentally, it would become far more difficult to carry through the recommendations of the working party on the ownership of managing agencies. Yours faithfully,
H. A. P. FISHER,
Wolfson College,
Oxford.
June 11.

Hunger for knowledge

From Mrs Susan Hall

Sir, I teach English to immigrants, including the foreign wives of English sailors. To set up my class I was lent six books and given a stack of cards, three felt-tipped pens and a pot of glue.

Today I attended a conference for teachers of English as a second language. It was very pleasant, with wine for lunch and cream scones for tea.

What are our priorities? Cream teas or books? Yours faithfully,
SUSAN HALL,
21 Queensberry Avenue,
Hartlepool,
Cleveland.
June 19.

Crestfallen

From Chester Herald

Sir, As a graduate of Trinity College, Cambridge who, like the Earl of Chester, achieved only a modest II II, I am glad the University has dropped its plan to give Prince Charles and Lady Diana a set of table-mats embossed with the university's crest ("Thrifty gift" Times Diary, June 19). This would have been even thrifter a gift than a secondhand book for the university has no crest like many ancient institutions it bears for its coat of arms a shield alone.

Those who forget the meaning of the word "crest" should compare in their mind's eye the great crested grebe and the poor old coot. Yours faithfully,
HUBERT CHESHYRE,
Chester Herald,
College of Arms,
Queen Victoria Street, EC4.
June 19.

Help for British films

From Mr Alan Sapper and Sir John Terry

Sir, Mr William Burnside (May 26) and Messrs John and Roy Boulting (May 12) have criticised the proposed set up of a British Film Authority without apparently having read the two reports in which this idea was formulated. These were the report of the Prime Minister's working party on the future of the British film industry (Cmd 6372) and the first report of the Interim Action Committee on the film industry (Cmd 7071) published in January, 1976 and January, 1978, respectively.

Both reports made it abundantly clear that the BFA would not be either "in total control of the principal sources of finance" (Messrs Boulting) or "appointed to see that the new party line is strictly adhered to" (Mr Burnside) or named by "a number of civil servants who would exercise control over the film makers" (Mr Burnside).

What these reports in fact stated was that the fragmentation of government responsibilities in relation to film in all its forms had contributed to the present weakness of the British film industry and that it was therefore logical and sensible or responsibility for film-as-art and industry and film-as-an-art to be unified through a British Film Authority responsible to a single minister — not "another minister" (Mr Burnside) but one minister instead of, as at present, several ministers.

despotic force over the film community rather than its efficient servant. We urge them to read the reports.

Again, when Mr Burnside says that "the Government-funded Film Finance Corporation, not to mention the earlier postwar Crown Film Unit, did little to advance major film production in this country" he is wrong. For millions to the British taxpayer," he seems to have forgotten that the Crown Film Unit nurtured some of the finest film-making talent Britain has ever produced. And he seems to be unaware of the fact that the National Film Finance Corporation over a period of 30 years beginning in 1949 received from the British taxpayer an aggregate sum of only £3.5m that out of this sum it paid interest to the British taxpayer totalling £4.8m and met its own operating expenses of £1.8m; and that with the change of about £3m, used in a revolving basis and earning profits on one out of every three films supported, it advanced over £31m in helping to finance 750 feature films (from *The Third Man* to *The Elephant Man*) and thus kept in being a British film industry which would otherwise have been submerged under the tide of American imports.

Finally, Mr Burnside's allegation that the Association of Cinematographers, Television and Allied Technicians did even less than the National Film Finance Corporation to advance major film production in this country is manifestly absurd since it is the ACTA's own members — directors, cameramen, film technicians of all kinds — who have achieved for British film production an international reputation for excellence.

We are, Sir, yours very truly,
ALAN SAPPER,
JOHN TERRY,
2 Soho Square, W1.
June 3.

Point of qualification

From Miss Moira McGovern and others

Sir, To gain entry to some institutions offering a degree which is recognized by the College of Speech Therapists as a licence to practise, it is necessary to sit for three A levels, not two as stated in your editorial of June 12.

"A thirst for the snobbery of creating a more exclusive profession" is a misleading and

inaccurate way of describing how professional and licensing bodies ensure that the public is served by practitioners whose skill keeps pace with developments in specialized areas.

Happily, for the general well-being, it is indeed "no longer enough" for doctors to wish to ease pain, for dentists to have strong wrists, for bus drivers to be interested in driving or for train drivers to have "a love of locomotives". Such sentiments are a reasonable basis for training but are a course of study for training that they are not in themselves "badges of employability".

Times change but it seems *The Times* does not change with them. Yours faithfully,
MOIRA MCGOVERN,
MARGARET EDWARDS,
DAVID CRISTAL,
Queen Margaret College,
Clarendon Terrace,
Edinburgh.
June 15.

The duty to nominate

From Mr Jeffrey Rooke, MP for Birmingham, Perry Bar (Labour)

Sir, It is simply not true (report, June 15) that the Yorkshire area council of the National Union of Mineworkers will, by not nominating candidates for reselection this year, save itself from the "same lengthy process next year", when the parliamentary boundaries are changed. Perhaps they have their own version of the Labour Party rule book.

Reselection has to be "set in motion not later than 36 months from the last general election" (clause XIV (7), ie, by May, 1982). In this case the full social workers' over strike? I have no doubt that the social resources have been available to help Maria in her sad and limited life. The outcome would have been quite different.

Reallocation (not reselection) of new constituencies between existing prospective candidates (ie, re-elected MPs and others) cannot take place until after the House of Commons has approved the new English parliamentary boundaries, and the earliest estimate of this is spring, 1983.

For mandatory reselection (which I support) of Labour MPs to begin in the same Parliament as a distribution is inconvenient to say the very least — it is, however, no excuse for any affiliated organization to rewrite the rule book to suit its own convenience. Yours etc,
JEFF ROOKE,
House of Commons,
June 15.

Help for jobless - is there an answer? Page 18

Stock markets

FT Index 544.3 up 2.9
FT Gilts 66.15 up 0.37

Sterling

\$1.9925 up 2.15 cents
Index 95.7 up 0.6

Dollar

Index 108.1 down 0.6
DM 2.3695 down 55 pts

Gold

\$462.50 up \$4

Money

3-month sterling 12 1/2
3-month Euro \$ 18 1/2-18 3/4
6-month Euro \$ 17 1/2-17 3/4

IN BRIEF

Few takers for BOC offering

BOC International, the leading British group in industrial gases, yesterday saw most of its £22m of 9 per cent convertible loan stock offering rejected by the stock market. Underwriters, the big investment institutions who insure such issues for a fee, are having to take up 73 per cent of the stock.

They will probably sell it on the stock market in coming months; this will hold back the price of the ordinary shares.

The stock began to look unattractive as the price of ordinary shares in BOC fell away. This is not the first time the market has rejected BOC; in 1975 more than 50 per cent of a right issue was left with underwriters.

St Piran adjournment

Mr Justice Dillon yesterday adjourned the hearing of the winding up petition being brought against St Piran, the mining and construction group, until July 23. The petition is being brought by Runic Nominees which holds under 1 per cent of St Piran's shares for Genor, the South African mining group.

3-D camera production

The world's first full 3-D camera aimed at the mass market began production in Dundee yesterday. Nimslo, the designers, have received grants of £2.7m to help equip their factory.

Peugeot loss

Peugeot, the French car maker which takes in Talbot in the UK, yesterday announced the £1,500m (£135m) net loss for 1980 which it forecast last November. The comparable figure in 1979 was a profit of £1,800m. Investment rose from £5,068m to £5,756m.

Eurobond flotations

West Germany's leading banks have decided against arranging a calendar for mark-denominated Eurobond flotations because of the lack-lustre state of the new issue market. Today's decision means that the near freeze on new foreign mark loans will continue.

Tesco superstore

Tesco is to build a multi-million pound superstore at Abingdon, Oxfordshire. The 20-acre site is on the A34 Abingdon bypass, where a store, garden centre and filling station will be built. Work is expected to start in August and finish before Christmas, 1982, creating about 200 jobs.

Zips plant closure

Work at the Talon Division of Textron—an American company—which makes zip fasteners at Treforest, near Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan, will end within five months with a loss of 360 jobs. The company blames cheap foreign imports from Japan, Taiwan and Europe.

Record deliveries fall

Record companies' deliveries declined by 1.5 per cent to 19.3m units during the first quarter of 1981, with the value of orders up 4.8 per cent to £12.8m. Rising imports, home taping and the recession were blamed for poor sales.

Bakery jobs go

The Mothers Pride bakery at Peterborough is to close by September with the loss of 190 jobs. Production is being switched to other bakeries. The company blamed continuing losses at Peterborough for its decision.

US tax cut move

The United States Senate Finance Committee voted yesterday to reduce capital gains tax from 28 to 20 per cent. It also agreed to cut the top individual income tax rate of 70 per cent to 50 per cent on investment income.

Wall Street lower

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 199 points down at 994.20. The S&P 500 was 1.15862. The £ was 0.583688.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Berkeley Exp	10p to 336p	Racal	11p to 376p
De La Rue	15p to 720p	Ricardo Eng	22p to 470p
RAF Higgs	4p to 44p	WZ	9p to 535p
EC	13p to 706p	Rowlinson Cons	5p to 51p
Lasmo	12p to 559p		

Falls

Atlantic Res	5p to 170p	Milford Docks	5p to 108p
Five Discount	2p to 29p	Polly Peck	5p to 363p
Cropper J	5p to 132p	Tate & Lyle	4p to 174p
Fisher J	5p to 165p	Vakfontein	6p to 109p
Jardine Platt	6p to 226p	Vesper	5p to 125p

Big switch likely on money supply rules

By David Blake

Big changes in the way the Bank of England operates to control the money supply are likely to come into effect towards the end of August.

The Bank has circularized the clearing banks and a number of other banks with proposals for changing to a system where all eligible banks will have to deposit an amount equivalent to half of one per cent of their eligible liabilities with the Bank of England.

Comments on the proposals are expected from the commercial banks over the next two or three weeks. If there are no big problems, the Bank will announce a date from which the new system will operate.

August 20 has been pencilled in as the chosen time. At some point before then, the Bank will issue a new list setting out the names of all eligible banks covered by the system. Leading foreign banks in London are likely to be included, thus widening the scope for control.

If all goes well, on August 20 the Reserve Asset Ratio system will be abolished. This has served a useful purpose in controlling the money supply and in preventing banks from taking excessive risks.

The reserve asset ratio prevents banks from having deposits which are too large in relation to their assets. They have been asked for written assurances that they will not change their policies, which are designed to prevent their lending from rising too fast without getting Bank of England permission.

The reserve assets system has been heavily criticized in recent years for failing to accomplish either of its tasks adequately.

On the same date that the reserve assets system is abolished, all eligible banks will be expected to deposit money with members of the London Discount Market Association amounting to about £3,000m, which is likely to be roughly 5 to 6 per cent of their eligible liabilities. This is less tough than the present system.

Clearing banks will have a cut in the amount they formally deposit with the Bank of England from 11 per cent to a higher per cent, but they will have to keep working balances.

For the first time, other banks will have to keep deposits with the Bank of England.

The latest proposals flesh out the first step in what is intended to be a long evolutionary process of reform of the monetary system.

Most of the contentious questions, such as the effective abandonment of Minimum Lending Rate, are left undecided. The measures outlined in the Bank document, mostly cover which banks will be affected and the structure of the arrangements.

The changes do however open the way towards a more market-oriented system for controlling the money supply, possibly moving towards some variant of monetary base control if it were decided to go down that path.

Economy still on the floor

By Frances Williams

CYCLICAL INDICATORS

The following table is based on the CSO composite indices of the business cycle in the United Kingdom published yesterday.

	Longer leading (5 indicators)	Shorter leading (5 indicators)	Coincident (7 indicators)	Larger (5 indicators)
1980				
May	102.8	106.2	99.3	93.9
June	102.4	105.5	97.4	92.9
July	103.1	102.0	95.6	91.4
Aug	103.9	100.6	93.0	89.8
Sept	103.1	100.1	91.4	87.3
Oct	108.4	99.6	88.6	84.6
Nov	110.9	99.3	89.2	82.0
Dec	112.0	100.2	89.3	80.2
1981				
Jan	113.4	101.8	89.4	78.0
Feb	115.5	103.0	89.7	77.5
March	117.9	104.0	89.8	76.7
April	118.7	105.1	89.3	75.2
May	119.0			74.0

Latest official figures suggest that the recession has touched bottom, but there is no sign of any sustained recovery in economic activity from present low levels.

The coincident index of cyclical indicators compiled by the Central Statistical Office, which is designed to pinpoint turning points in the economy, fell slightly in April but has remained broadly unchanged since last November.

The April fall was based on only partial information and reflected rather lower retail sales in that month compared with the exceptionally buoyant levels of January and February.

The coincident index has also been flattened by inclusion of the output measure of Domestic Product, which fell in the first quarter of 1981.

Officials point out that this Y-shaped behaviour of the coincident index is "not typical of previous troughs", most of which have shown a V-shaped pattern. This means that the exact timing of the trough may not be known for some time to come.

The shorter and longer leading indicators, which look five and 15 months ahead to turning points on average, have been pointing consistently to a bottoming of the recession around the first quarter of this year. But lead times in past cycles have been as long as 12 months for the shorter leading index and 21 months for the longer leading.

The cyclical indicators broadly confirm the predictions of the majority of economic forecasters. They do not expect any general recession ending in 1981, though most believe that the low point will have been touched in the first half of the year.

A slowing down in the rate of destocking, which will help to boost output, is likely to be offset by lower exports, investment and consumer spending.

Enterprise zone opens at Corby

By Peter Hill

England's first enterprise zone, at Corby, one of 11 zones being established to stimulate new businesses, was formally opened yesterday.

It will be followed by others over the next three months, and all of them will offer considerable advantages to companies within the zone areas.

Benefits include relaxation of planning requirements, exemption from rates, 100 per cent capital allowances and exemption from development land tax.

The Corby zone, which covers 280 acres, was formally established by an exchange of leases between the Commission for New Towns and the Bradbury Group, a local developer, and witnessed by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary.

Some 50 acres have already been committed to development, with 32 factories under construction and six companies already operating.

Mr Heseltine, speaking at the opening ceremony said: "I can't promise zones will be successful—that depends on people taking advantage of the opportunities. But I am very encouraged by the enormous interest shown by the private sector."

Referring to criticisms about the enterprise zone concept, which was announced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his Budget last year, Mr Heseltine said if companies looked at the opportunities and took advantage of the freedoms available, enterprise zones would have the potential to help everyone, both inside and outside the zones.

The Government has launched the enterprise zones as an experiment in attempting to generate new economic activity throughout the United Kingdom. The first zone to be designated, the lower Swansea valley, was inaugurated earlier this month.

Call to ease state industry curbs

By Rupert Morris

Sir Francis Tombs, former chairman of the Electricity Council, said yesterday that he would have stayed on in the post if he could have secured the right kind of Government financing system.

He told MPs on the Treasury and Civil Service select committee that no managing director of a big company would accept the kind of constraints imposed by external financing and limits fixed 18 months in advance.

Sir Francis, who is well known for his opposition to Government interference in nationalized industries, said he would have liked to operate a five-year plan comprising forecasts of profits, prices and manpower levels.

He said the Government could remove financing limits and would thus incur a relatively modest increase of "tens of millions" in further nationalized industry expenditure. He added that he felt nationalized industries should be 50 to 60 per cent self-financing.

Earlier, members of the accepting houses committee and the Issuing Houses Association had recommended to the committee that nationalized industries should be given freedom to borrow in the markets as an alternative to borrowing from the National Lending Fund.

Mr Paul Richards, of Samuel Monagu, pointed out that in other countries nationalized industries were able to borrow on their own account, and this was excluded from the public sector borrowing requirement.

But in reply to a question from Mr Edward du Cann, chairman of the select committee, Mr John Baring, chairman of the accepting houses committee, agreed that substantial borrowing in the markets by nationalized industries would tend to push up interest rates.

Free-for-all 'no value' to Telecom

By Our Industrial Staff

The Society of Post Office Executives, which represents 24,000 of the engineering management in British Telecom, has called on the Government to think carefully before liberalizing the telecommunications network.

The society's views are contained in a report by Professor Christopher Foster, director of Coopers and Lybrand's economics and public policy division.

A document published by the Government in April, based on a survey conducted by Professor Michael Beesley of London Business School, came out strongly in favour of the private sector competing with British Telecom in providing certain network services called "value added services".

The Foster report disputes whether the private sector leasing British Telecom circuits simply for rehire adds any value to such networks.

"What Beesley proposes appears to us to be simply buying and reselling BT's long distance circuits. That has no precedent in the USA or elsewhere. But more crucially, it does not appear to involve adding any appreciable value to the BT service."

Professor Beesley was influenced by the Americans' liberal approach, but the Foster report concludes: "There is no basis for assuming that the United Kingdom can realize similar benefits from the simple resale of BT's existing capacity to third parties for unrestricted use."

The telecommunications Bill, expected to be law by the end of this session, will empower the Industry Secretary to grant licences to private operators.

Argentina adopts two-tier peso to protect reserves

From Tony Emerson, Buenos Aires, June 22

In order to halt the run on Argentina's reserves, the central bank adopted a two-tier exchange policy today, creating a "commercial" peso and a "financial" peso.

The "commercial" peso will be fixed by the central bank and be used for payments and receipts of imports and exports calculated for Argentine ports.

The central bank today fixed this value at a selling rate of 4,438 pesos to the dollar, and a buying rate of 4,430 on Friday.

This is in accordance with the policy of the crawling peg devaluation of about 6 per cent per month declared three weeks ago.

The "financial" peso will be allowed a clean float. Although exchange brokers were given a strong official hint that the financial rate should be about 5,000 pesos to the dollar, the physical shortage of dollar bills pushed the selling rate up to over 6,000 pesos, but it subsequently dropped to about 5,500 when markets closed.

Small investors are besieging exchange houses in the centre of Buenos Aires. They fear the new measures—which have tripled the peso value of the financial dollar in six months—will trigger a spell of hyperinflation.

A gripping tale of export success Jubilee for the best clip joints

By David Hewson

It may do little to ease the tension between Japan and Europe over the imbalance of trade between the two, but Britain can claim an important new export success in the land of the rising yen.

If you want a hoseclip with panache in Osaka it should have the "Jubilee" stamp on it and have first seen the light of day in Gillingham, Kent.

L. Robinson, which, with its 200 employees, has been turning out Jubilees since 1921, is now becoming Japan's biggest source of hoseclips. Jubilees clamp pipes on the earth-moving giants made by the equipment manufacturers Komatsu and keep the Hondas of Japan's upwardly mobile classes on the road when the home-made versions call it a day.

The Gillingham company invented the clip and held on to the patent until the end of the last war, when Japan took advantage of the expiry of the patent and started to make its own.

According to Mr Chris Bunting, Robinson's sales manager, his company hit back 10 years ago by appointing a Japanese trading company, Shiro, as its agent.

"There were a number of small hoseclip producers at the time—it was almost a cottage industry," Mr Bunting said. "What our trading company did was establish the British Standards Institution trademark as a standard of quality and the Union Jack as our trademark. It has increased and increased our share of the market."

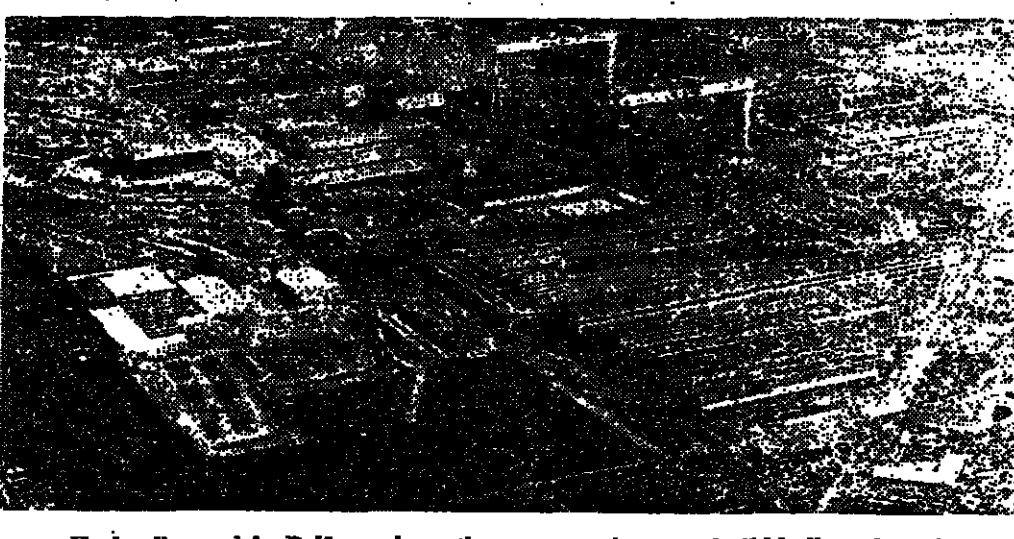
To such an extent, apparently, that £500,000 of Robinson's current £m turnover comes from exports to Japan, where its Kanish virtues have become a byword of hoseclip purity. Its up-market stainless steel models are particularly pleasing to Oriental tastes.

The company now has to contend with international competition from everyone who can turn out the clip, a device tightened by a single screw which will be familiar to everyone who has had to deal with a leaky radiator.

With the recession, its export share of production has fallen from 48 per cent to around 40 per cent. But according to Mr E. Yoshimura, vice-president of Shiro, who has just visited the Gillingham company, the Jubilee remains Japan's most prestigious and popular hoseclip in the face of myriad smaller competitors, and prospects for the future are still bright.

More aid to keep Harland's afloat £57m lifeline for Belfast

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor



Harland's yard in Belfast where the company hopes to build bulk coal carriers.

Further state aid in cash and guarantees on commercial borrowings totalling almost £57m are to be made available to Harland and Wolff, the Belfast shipbuilding and engineering group.

A total of £46m is being provided by the Government this financial year. It will be supported by government guarantees on commercial borrowings up to a ceiling of £10.5m.

This was announced yesterday in a brief two-paragraph written parliamentary answer by Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for Northern Ireland.

The announcement boosts the total financial aid made available by successive governments to Harland and Wolff to more than £300m since the mid-sixties.

The latest rescue comes after the provision of a similar sum a year ago to the Belfast group, which has suffered from a continuing cash crisis for some time amid the continuing social and political troubles of Ulster.

Successive chairmen and chief executives have sought to make the company profitable, but their hopes have been constantly proved wildly optimistic.

In 1979 the company recorded a loss of £42.26m and the figures for last year, which are expected to be published in the next few days, are likely to show only a marginal reduction in the size of loss.

The Government, however reluctantly, has been forced to provide a financial lifeline for Harland and Wolff because of the company's importance as Belfast's dominant employer, whose liquidation would lead to an even larger drain on public funds.

Harland, along with other yards in the United Kingdom, has suffered from a need to maintain employment for the workforce. Its present order book will be exhausted in two years time.

Vessels on order consist of the last of a series of ferries for British Rail whose production has been severely disrupted, two liquefied petroleum gas carriers for British Petroleum, and two 109,000-ton deadweight oil tankers also for BP.

Over the past year the company has developed a range of designs for large bulk carriers and is hopeful that the expanding trade in the shipping of coal will lead to orders for this type of ship.

A year ago the Government appointed an independent review team under Sir Patrick Meaney as chairman to prepare a report on the prospects of Harland and Wolff diversifying into other activities and making use of the extensive facilities which exist at the company's Queen's Island yard.

Mr Butler said that the Government was considering the review team's report and the company's corporate plan which will cover the period to March 1985. A further statement is expected to be made shortly.

Harland and Wolff's sole shareholder is the Northern Ireland Department of Commerce. The company has been under effective state control since 1975, although even before then Government equity had been a little under 50 per cent.

Date set for shipyard closure

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Reporter

British Shipbuilders yesterday finally announced the date of closure of the Robb Caledon shipyard in Dundee-September 12. Management said that the run-down of the remaining labour force of 435 would have to be completed by then.

British Shipbuilders, which announced its formal decision with regret, said the yard had been losing money for some years, that losses currently stood at £250,000 a month and that the yard was without work or the prospect of further orders.

Last week the corporation had made it clear to union leaders in Newcastle that it intended to close the yard, which has been the subject of negotiations with the unions for more than 18 months, but promised to give a week of further thought before making yesterday's announcement.

The last vessel built at Dundee, a small ferry for use on the Tyne, was completed earlier this year, and the corporation said yesterday that attempts to win orders for engineering or off-shore equipment which might have maintained jobs had proved fruitless.

A total of 80 technical staff and 45 apprentices employed at the yard will be retained within British Shipbuilders, and the corporation also said that it would attempt to ensure that as many as possible of the rest left through voluntary redundancy, retraining and redeployment.

Unigate £30m expansion

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Unigate is investing £30m to expand its Wincanton subsidiary, with special emphasis on its rapidly growing transport business.

The intention is to establish Wincanton's name in national transport. Until now it has been generally regarded as the company primarily responsible for Unigate's own transport, such as the bulk carriage of dairy products.

With little publicity outside the trade it has become Britain's fastest growing independent company in commercial vehicle contract hire and rental.

Opening a new £5.5m complex for Wincanton Transport at Darlington, West Midlands, yesterday, Mr John Clement, chairman of Unigate, said three further sites at Chippenham, Wiltshire, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, and West London were under construction at a cost of around £2m each.

Bids in for survey of technology

By Bill Johnstone

Six management consultants have submitted proposals to the Government on how best to survey the benefits that could accrue to Britain from technological joint ventures with Japan.

The consultants, invited at the end of April to submit their tenders, all have offices in both Britain and Japan. A decision is expected by the end of July.

The study, which will probably take at least six months, was first proposed 18 months ago but has received greater impetus in the wake of a ministerial visit to Japan in April, when a collaborative agreement with the Japanese Ministry for International Trade was signed.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Industry and Information Technology, who has recently held talks with Mr Rokusuke Tanaka, Japan's Minister for International Trade and Industry, is keen on encouraging such joint ventures.

The survey is expected to cover two principal areas—information technology and the application of electronics to manufacturing processes.

There will be ministerial exchanges between Britain and Japan. Delegations of business men led by representatives of the Department of Industry will be visiting Japan in the coming months.

Recent statements by Mr Baker have emphasized that the Government wants any exchange of ideas to be a two-way process, and several leading British companies in the machine tool industry have already entered into agreements with Japanese counterparts.

A House of Lords European Communities Committee report published today underlines the importance of a strong, competitive information technology industry to the future of both the United Kingdom and the European Community.

DJB DUMP TRUCKS FOUND THINGS WERE REALLY MOVING WHEN THEY SET UP AT

Peterlee

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FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

US interest hopes spur gilts

The market's belief that United States interest rates will shortly stabilize made for another strong performance in gilts.

Equities, relieved by the fact that the BP rights issue announcement was out of the way, also made progress, but with investors now awaiting details in the new shares, later today, business was described as thin.

The usual round of weekend press comment provided some interest, and electricals were sought after in a thin market ahead of some major company results due this week.

The FT Index closed at its highest point for the day 2.9 higher at 544.3. The prospect of lower United States interest rates before long saw gilts open with rises of up to 1 1/2 p, first thing, which surprised many jobbers. After going 1 1/2 p higher at one point, prices paused for a spot of profit taking after lunch before recovering again after hours.

Even news of further increases in United States prime rates by 1 per cent to 20 per cent made little impression. At the close, gilts were showing gains of 1 1/2 p to 1 1/2 p with shorts 2 p better.

Leading industrial spent another quiet day although prices generally were higher at the close. However, BOC International lost ground, falling 1p to 23p on news that 73 per cent of the convertible rights issue had been left with the underwriters.

But elsewhere, ICI added 4p to 286p, Becton Dickinson 2p to 215p, Glaxo 2p to 365p, Unilever 2p to 580p, British Aerospace 3p to 223p and Courtauld 1p to 68p, but profit taking left Dunlop 2p easier at 78p.

BOC Oil Services made a bright debut on the USM climbing to 15p over the placing

pricing of 10p. Recent new-comer Star Computers reacted to comment, slipping 13p at 198p.

Shares of Harris & Sheldon were suspended at 32p amid talk of a bid from the Far East. An inquiry into recent share dealings has been called for.

Weekend comment was good for 3p on Hanson Trust at 286p, 6p on MEC at 229p, 4p on Neesbitt had to report its first interim loss in 60 years last March and the half-time dividend was passed. As it struggles back to profitability it is thought in the stock market that the 25 per cent stake in Sheffield Refractories Houses, the hotel and restaurants chain, will either come on the market or go to one group. Sheffield shares are now 98p—putting a value of £452,000 on the stake.

House of Fraser at 180p, 6p on Sidlaw at 174p and 5p on Bossey at 178p. In builders, comment put 5p on Rawlinson Construction at 51p, but the chairman's cautious remarks clipped 1p from George Wimpey at 115p as Blue Circle improved 4p to 180p and PC Henderson 7p to 146p.

Trusthouse Forte added 3p to 158p after conceding defeat over its battle with Savoy. "A" down 5p at 186p. Elsewhere, speculative attention hitted Netter Manufacturing at 143p and Tern Consultancy 14p to 62p while profit taking after a good run wiped 5p from Polly Peck at 363p and 3p from Cornhill Dresses at 179p.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Advised Computer (F)	7.15(5.56)	0.75(0.72)	5.07(5.35)	0.3(-)	14/8	0.5(0.5)
Andros Strickland (F)	8.4(7.23)	0.3(0.27)	10.4(11.4)	3(3)	7/8	4(4)
Bedgford (F)	0.54(0.19)	0.25(0.37)	0.7(1.01)	1.5(2.5)	12/8	2.2(4.0)
J Cropper (F)	15.02(13.7)	0.1(0.88)	—	5.57(4.9)	—	5.57(4.9)
Davenport Kellor (F)	—	0.58(1.06)	14.9(20.3)	1.2(1.2)	—	2.5(2.5)
I Grant (East) (F)	13.9(13.7)	2.23(2.63)	—	2.0(2.0)	12/8	—
Great Nthm Inv (I)	—	0.7(0.65)	5.94(3.41)	—	—	—
Kraft Foods (F)	1.32(1.53)	0.07(0.198)	2.34(3.27)	1.35(1.35)	—	1.35(1.35)
Walker & Staff (F)	2.92(3.29)	0.7(0.65)	2.34(3.27)	1.35(1.35)	11/8	3.38(7.7)
Whitecross (F)	28.4(27.4)	—	—	—	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * = Loss.

Briefly

James Grant (East): Turnover for the year to January 31 was £12.9m (11.3m). Earnings per share were 14.5p (20.3p). The final was 14p (same). Chairman Mr J. Grant said in his annual statement that to make a forecast for the current year is exceptionally difficult. There are still no signs of an upturn in the United Kingdom economy.

Thos Lockers (Holdings): Chairman Mr J. Lockers said in his annual statement that to make a forecast for the current year is exceptionally difficult. There are still no signs of an upturn in the United Kingdom economy.

Kraft Productions: No dividend for the year to January 31. The net asset value per ordinary share at close of business on June 19 was 73.5p after deduction of prior charges at year end and 75.1p after deduction of prior charges at market value.

(same). Group turnover for the year to December 31 was £13m (£11.5m). Group loss was £70,871 (loss £25,373). Loss per share 5.6p (3.41p).

Formister: Following recent acquisitions, Monks Investment Trust now hold 250,000 shares (6.80 per cent).

Flight Refuelling (Holdings): The annual meeting has approved the agreement and plan of merger of April 14 between Stanley Aviation of Denver and Flight Refuelling. It is expected that the merger will become effective by June 30.

London Sumatra Plantations: After further acceptance of its offer, Harris & Crossfield now holds 186,818 shares and has a total interest at June 22 in 14,659,642 shares (92.02 per cent).

Alflow Streamlines: Both divisions continue to be affected by the current recession, particularly the production section of the manufacturing division. The board remains confident that progress will be resumed when the economy recovers from the recession.

Walker and Staff Holdings (engineering supplies): On turnover down from £3.25m to £2.92m in the year to March 31, 1981, pretax profit dropped from £198,000 to £70,000. CCA pretax profit: £50,000. Total dividend unchanged at 1.92p gross.

Great Northern Investment Trust: Pretax revenue for half-year to May 31, 1981, was £2.85m (2.85m). Interim payment: 2.85p gross (same). Board intends to maintain final at 6.57p gross.

Development costs slow ACT

High expenditure on new systems slowed profits growth last year at Applied Computer Techniques (ACT), the Birmingham software group.

Shares in the group, which are traded under the Stock Exchange rule 163 (2), dropped given when the group launched back 10p to 133p after it announced a profits rise of less than 5 per cent to £756,000 pre-tax compared with a 97 per cent rise the previous year.

Charterhouse Japhet has had to postpone for at least a year the placing of its latest candidate for the Unlisted Securities Market, Acis Jewellery, following a technical hitch.

Acis, in which Charterhouse holds 45 per cent, was due to announce on Wednesday the placing of £5m, 10p shares, or roughly 40 per cent of the company. But a last minute meeting to decide on a placing price, capital structure and profits forecast broke up last night after all parties had decided on a postponement.

Back in 1974, Mr Gerson Kesner, then a qualified accountant, decided to enter the jewellery trade and bought for a nominal sum the retail interests of Acis.

Through his shop-in-shop system he set about building up the group's retail outlets, renting floor space in prime sites

from already established stores. At present the group has 64 retail outlets with three at Fulham Road, The Market Covent Garden and Wood Green Shopping City, catering for the higher-priced range of women's jewellery. The rest cater for products within the £2 to £75 range.

Mr Kesner maintains that this system cuts down on group overheads and enables much needed income to be channelled into the design and manufacture of jewellery.

More than a third of the group's sales range is made by its Richmond division, with the rest available for sale in wholesale customers.

At the same time, Acis is in the process of building up its lucrative mail order business, which trades under the name of the Privilege Collection.

Business appointments

Racal-Dana operations chief named

Mr Paul Francis has been appointed as director of operations of Racal-Dana Instruments.

Mr Alan R. Titchener has been appointed as the new chairman of the Channel Tunnel Association.

Mr H. F. Baur, at present a director of BILTON (UK), has been appointed managing director of BILTON Metals & Ores International in the Hague. On taking up this new appointment Mr Baur will cease to be a director of BILTON (UK).

Lord Birdwood and Lord Kilmarlock have become vice-presidents of The Institute of Sales and Marketing Management.

Mr Patrick Gee has been appointed managing director of Roadchef. Mr Gee succeeds founding managing director Mr Clive D. Lindley, who remains chairman of the company, part of the LCI Group. Mr Gee remains financial director and company secretary of the LCI Group. Mr Mike Smell, formerly Roadchef's chief accountant, becomes the new company secretary.

Mr F. W. Brown has been appointed W. director of BSA.

Mr P. W. Sharman, director and chief general manager of Norwich Union Group has been appointed chairman of Norwich Winterthur Holdings.

Mr John Chesworth has been appointed a director of Bodycote International.

Mr Gordon Crawford and Mr R. Derek Webb, directors of Cable Bell, are to retire. Mr Crawford will continue his association with the company as a part-time consultant.

Mr John Paisley and Mr John O'Connor will be admitted to the partnership of McCaughan Dyson & Company, Australian stock and share brokers. Mr Paisley will remain as London manager.

Mr T. G. J. Lewis has become chief executive officer of the Royal Assured Cooperative Society, succeeding Mr J. H. Walker, who has retired.

Mr Alan A. Carr, manager of the Fenchurch Street branch of Lloyds Bank, has been appointed honorary treasurer and a director of the City Arts Trust.

Harris & Sheldon suspended for bid talks

Warwickshire group Harris & Sheldon, whose interests range from Antler luggage to shotguns, kitchen sinks and lifts, is holding friendly talks with an unnamed potential bidder. The shares were suspended at 32p yesterday, capitalising the group at £12.7m, pending an announcement.

Mr James Miller, chairman, has asked merchant bank S. G. Warburg to look into two call options written in the stock last week. Mr Miller said that this was an unusual event for Harris & Sheldon, and its timing caused both parties in the talks some concern. Mr Robert Davenport, of Warburg, confirmed last night that the group may seek a Stock Exchange investigation into the circumstances surrounding these call options.

Harris & Sheldon's shares have been dull recently, but yesterday they gained 2p to 32p, before being suspended in the interest of shareholders.

The bid talks would not have been revealed yesterday but for the concern over the call options. Mr Miller and Mr Davenport last night refused to comment on suggestions that the potential bidder may be a Hongkong-based group. Talks began in earnest about a week ago, after an approach to Harris & Sheldon.

A more detailed announcement should be available within the next ten days, Mr Miller said yesterday. Harris & Sheldon's first half ends on June 30, and the coming announcement will probably give an indication of how trading is going. Mr Davenport said in 1980 pretax profits dipped from £4.52m to £3.1m, although sales were nearly £3m higher at £48.2m. Most of the group's profits came from its capital goods businesses. Gross dividends of 4.3p were paid in 1980.

Harris & Sheldon has interests in property investment and management and is involved in a wide range of industrial activities. There was speculation in the market yesterday that its sound asset base may have attracted the bid attention. At December 31, 1980, its assets per share were 56.6p, well above both yesterday's 32p suspension price and the 23.1p of the group's shares.

Britannic Assurance, which has 10.25 per cent of the group's shares, was taken by surprise by yesterday's bid and preferred not to comment.

Whitecroft cuts payout as profits tumble

Manchester textiles and engineering group, Whitecroft, failed to live up to earlier expectations in the second half and left the group with full-year profits to March 31 of just £1.73m before tax, compared with £4.57m a year earlier. Dividends total 5.5p gross, half the 1979-80 level. The shares dipped 2p to 64p yesterday.

After the first-half profit of £875,000, Mr John Tavaré, chairman, said the group expected to do better in the second six months of the year. But then fresh cuts in public spending hit its building and engineering supplies division hard and put paid to the group's hopes. The division's profits fell from £2.21m in 1979-80 to just £476,000 before tax.

Meanwhile, textiles were hit on two fronts with doubled American imports of finished sheeting hitting commissioned finished textiles, and poor demand for industrial textiles,



Mr John Tavaré, chairman of Whitecroft.

especially in the automotive and general engineering industries. However, Edward Hall, Europe's leading cotton wool manufacturer, did well. Overall,

textiles contributed £1.03m pre-tax, down from £2.77m.

Moorlite Electrical made fresh progress, but Randalls has been closed. Extraordinary debits of £421m include its costs, but largely reflect the cost of cutting down Thomas Ryder before selling off the business separately from the buildings and equipment. Group engineering profits of £1.82m, against £1.63m, were struck after losses of £275,000 from mRyder before its sale.

Group sales were £89.5m down from £101.5m. Interest costs were slightly lower at £22.2m against £22.7m. Borrowings have dropped £1m to £13m since the year-end and have fallen steadily since their January 1980 peak of £17m. Mr Tavaré said yesterday. There is no sign of any improvement in Whitecroft's markets, but internal improvements are expected to allow whether profits this year.

Wimpey house sales slower

Sir Reginald Smith, chairman of George Wimpey, told shareholders at the annual meeting that although sales of private houses were buoyant in the early months of the year they had been rather less so in recent weeks.

Worldwide interest rates and inflation had been steadily rising, creating difficult trading conditions for an international contractor. Generally, the recession at home and abroad had led to increasing pressure on margins. Since it was not group policy to chase unprofitable work which could only store up problems for the future, work booked in recent months had been running at a somewhat lower level than in the same months of 1980.

Looking ahead, he was confident of the group's long-term prospects and its ability to participate fully in the economic upturn when it came.

Another US deal for Laird Group

London-based Laird Group reports its second takeover in the United States in less than a year. It has bought Amesbury Industries for \$4.2m (about £2.13m). Of this, \$3.6m was paid on completion and the

rest will be paid early next year. Amesbury makes woven pile weatherseal for windows and doors. It has a significant share of the United States market. Last October Laird bought New York Twist Drill for \$52.5m.

Warning from Whitbread chief

Current levels of trade in the brewing industry are again significantly below those of the previous year, to such an extent that, over the two-year period, it would appear that the beer market could decline by as much as 8 to 9 per cent, Mr C. H. Tidbury, the chairman of Whitbread, says in his annual report.

Whitbread is continuing to adjust its levels of activity to these reduced volumes, while protecting its own margins.

Outlook difficult at Continho

The outcome for the first four months of 1981 at Continho Caro, suppliers of steel and chemicals, was indifferent and the group will have to struggle to equal the 1980 results, let alone repeat the record results of 1979, it says.

Sales for the year to December fell from £154.5m to £126.8m and net profit after tax was down from £23.2m to £2.7m.

BSG International expects small profit

Mr Thomas Cannon, told shareholders at BSG International that as the new chairman he was pleased to be able to report a reversal of the loss of 1980. The first quarter of 1981 had produced a small profit after interest charges and this trend had continued for the first five months of the year.

The board was confident of showing a small profit during the first half of the year.

Rise at Property Partnerships

Property Partnerships, which owns and develops commercial property for investment, has lifted profits from £667,000 to £737,000 in the year to March 31 and has made a final dividend payment of 7.1p gross. Weatherall Green and Smith has valued the group's investment and hotel properties held at March 31 at £14m.



THE SHIRES LOVE OUR ALES

Lancashire and Hampshire, of course. Durham and Kent, too. Yorkshire and Devon, naturally. Although a national company, Whitbread have never stopped being a local brewer.

Today, we have many local breweries throughout Britain producing beers to suit the local taste. And can offer you a choice of no less than forty different ales. From nationally-known names like Trophy Best Bitter and Tankard to local beers such as Pompey Royal, Flowers Original and Welsh Bitter.

How did it all begin? As a company, we learned a simple lesson from Samuel Whitbread back in 1742. He had a lot of competition when he started out as a brewer in the City of London. And became pre-eminent by producing the taste people appreciated most at the time.

We merely extended the principle by continuing to brew a wide range of ales across the whole country. As a result, even at a time of recession, the company remains as successful and competitive as Samuel Whitbread would have wished.

OUR RESULTS

Year to 28th February 1981

	£000's	Year to 28.2.81	Year to 1.3.80
Turnover		782,148	720,259
Profit before taxation		66,388	61,813
Ordinary dividends		16,885	14,648
Retained in the business		49,503	39,654
Earnings per share		22.72p	21.56p
Dividend per share		6.70p	6.00p
Dividend cover		3.39	3.59
Added value per full-time employee		£12,062	£9,606

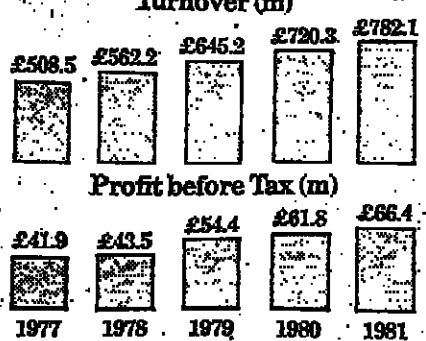
WEATHERING THE STORM

Points from the Report by the Chairman, Mr Charles Tidbury for the year ended 28th February 1981.

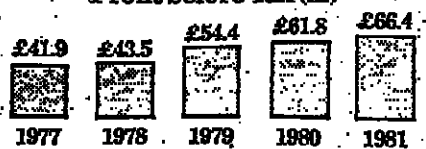
Profits before tax increased by 7.4%, and turnover by 8.8%. I think these results are satisfactory under the prevailing conditions, but they must be measured against an inflation rate of almost 17%. Beer sales were roughly in line with the industry's, which were estimated to be about 5% down. This drop in volume occurred across all trade sectors, but within that our local ales continued to perform well. Lager accounted for an increasing share of total beer sales. Current levels of trade in the brewing industry are again significantly below those of the previous year. However, our people have shown great skill, initiative and resourcefulness this year, which gives me confidence that we are coming through the present recession successfully.

FIVE YEAR RECORD

Turnover (m)



Profit before Tax (m)



WHITBREAD FOR CHOICE

Whitbread and Company Limited, Annual General Meeting: 12 noon, Tuesday, 21st July, 1981, Brewery, Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4SD.

James Cropper & Company Limited

The following are our unaudited preliminary figures for the year ending 28th March 1981.

	1981 £000	1980 £000
Turnover	15,022	13,716
Trading Profit	580	1,148
Interest	480	261
Profit before Taxation	100	887
Advance Corporation Tax	17	27
Profit after Taxation	83	860
Dividend: 4% on 1,600,000 Shares of 25p each	16	24 (6%)
6% on 1,600,000 Shares of 25p each (proposed)	24	40 (10%)
Balance Transferred to Reserves	43	796

Note: The Company has now returned to profit after a loss in the second half of last year and has a full order book at present. The recent fall in the value of sterling against the dollar will however affect margins until raw material costs can be recovered in selling prices. The new No. 4 Machine is now running satisfactorily and the prospects for the rest of the year are better than last year.

Wall Street

New York, June 22.—Stocks on the New York Stock Exchange closed lower with the index of 0.16 to 76.59 and the average price per share down seven cents. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 1.99 to 994.20. Declined advances by 826 to 700 and volume fell to 41,790,000 shares from 46,430,000 Friday.

down $\frac{1}{2}$ to 28 and Che
dropped one to 58 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Markets

Australia	1.7225-1.7315
Bahrain	0.7475-0.7505
Finland	8.7080-8.8280
Greece	113.95-115.85
Hong Kong	10.9250-10.9650
Iran	Not available
Kuwait	4.5500-4.5590
Malaysia	4.6155-4.6455
Mexico	47.40-49.10
New Zealand	2.2955-2.3165
Saudi Arabia	6.7610-6.7910
Singapore	4.2180-4.2480
South Africa	1.7165-1.7315

Key Market

Key Market

S

and MLR 12%

d 10/3/81)

ks Base Rate 12%

Loans% Low 11

igh 12

114

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Selling

7% 2 months 11½

13½ 3 months 11¾

ates 4 months
6 months

central adjusted*	limit*	1 month	
rate†	plz/mins.	2 months	
1.39	+1.40	3 months	
1.32	+0.33	4 months	
1.31	-0.19	5 months	
1.04	+0.95	6 months	
1.04	+0.04	1 year	Se
1.07	-0.06	3 months	

positive change denotes weak

ECU, and for the lira's weaker

Gold

Gold fixed: am. \$425 (an ounce)

per gram, \$262.50; \$425.50

Kruggerand (per ounce): \$476.70 (\$240-\$41.50)

Coverages (new): \$116-117 (\$58.50-\$59.50)

2 days	Overnight:
7 days	1 week:
1 month	1 month:
	3 months:
	8 months:

First Cls

3 months

Finance Ro

Euro-\$ Deposits

[illegible]

Gold fixed: am, \$462. (an ounce);
pm, \$462 close. \$482.50.

[illegible]

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

Stock Exchange Prices

Improved sentiment

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began June 15. Dealings End, June 25. Contrace Day, June 29. Settlement Day, July 6
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

LET THE GIN BE
Rich & Co
Really Dry Gin

1980/81 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E				1980/81 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E				1980/81 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E				1980/81 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E				
BRITISH FUNDS																
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL																
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
MINES																
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
FINANCIAL SERVICES																
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
PROPERTY																
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
RUBBER																
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
MISCELLANEOUS																
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
RECENT ISSUES																
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
SHIPPING																
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981
100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981	9000	100000	91	Each	91	1981	9000	91	1981

PERSONAL CHOICE



Nine-year-old Annie Gelpy with a playful pair of serval cubs which are being looked after by C.A.R.E., a charity that finds homes for unwanted wild animals (see report, p. 17).

● FACELIFT (BBC 1 9.25 pm) is an investigation by Harold Williams into the cosmetic surgery boom. He talks to the men and women who believe that with a £1,000 or more they are able to buy a new face, body or even persona. Included in the programme are interviews with surgeons themselves who tout their trade in the advertising columns of the national dailies. Not all of them do, however. Some have a business manager who, in one case, travels the country following a replica from his £100,000 a year advertising campaign. In whichever part of the country the client lives he will sub-contract the operation to a local surgeon, one of a chain up and down the country. The medical profession is becoming increasingly anxious about the spread of these clinics, the low standard of work (it is estimated that 20 per cent of patients are dissatisfied with the results of their operation) and post-operative care. The programme also contrasts NHS cosmetic surgery with that of the private clinics.

● S.S. 1923-1945 (ITV 10.30 pm) is a documentary about the growth of Hitler's crack personal army that created havoc in Europe even during the dying days of World War Two. To make this film Andrew Molloy has interviewed past members of the organization and some of its victims. It is a frightening history of oppression. During its existence it is estimated that some twenty-five million civilians, including four million Jews, were murdered by them on Hitler's orders. Included in the programme is a great deal of previously unseen film footage illustrating the methods adopted by this army. The third part of the documentary is certainly not for the squeamish. There are some horrific scenes from the concentration camps, both during and after the war, and of mass shootings after the victims had dug their own graves. It is a programme that visually shocks but not for the sake of it, and is of historical great interest. Anthony Valentine in the narrator but elsewhere there is the annoying broken English translations of the interviews in German.

● NO HANDICAP (Radio 4 4.15 pm) is the first of two programmes in which two musicians, both successful in their own field, talk about how they overcome physical disability to become the success they are. This afternoon rock star Ian Dury discusses polio which immobilized him in early life and seemingly put paid to any chance of him performing in the violently physical world of rock concerts, a world in which only a few able-bodied characters have learnt to survive. In the light of his illness, the title of one of his most successful songs - *Reasons to be Cheerful* - becomes all the more pertinent. Next week violinist Itzhak Perlman tells of his fight to overcome the same disability.

SYMBOLS KEY: *STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; *REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: *Diabetes: Restoring the Balance*, 7.05 Milk Borth, 7.30 Continental Arks. Closedown at 7.55.
9.05 For Schools: *Colleges*, French conversation. 9.35 The Brendan Voyage. 9.58 Capricorn Game. 11.00 With the Staff of Bristle. 11.17 Television Club. Closedown at 11.37.
12.55 pm Paboly Cw. Welsh serial. 1.30 The Flumps (r).
1.45 News.
1.55 Wimbledon 81. Live coverage of the Ladies' Singles first round matches being played on the Centre and Number One courts. There is also live coverage on BBC 2 at 2.15 and highlights of the day's play at 2.20 on BBC 1 and 2.20 on BBC 2.
4.20 Play School. For the under-fives (shown earlier on BBC 2) 4.45 The Record Breakers. Roy Castle and Morris McWhorter delve into the book of records to find some more superlatives (r). 5.10 John Craven's Newsround. Intelligently presented news for young people. 5.15 Ask Aspel. Mike presents more requested clips from recent BBC television programmes and has in the studio to answer questions the incredible inventor of things extraordinary, Will Lunn.
5.40 News read by Kenneth Kendall. 5.55 Regional news magazines.
6.20 Wimbledon 81. Highlights from today's first round matches in the Ladies' Singles Championship introduced by Harry Carpenter.
7.15 Medical Express. The first of a new series presented by Hilary Hanson and Chris Serle that looks at everything that medicine can offer.
7.45 Film: *The Alpha Capers* (1973) starring Henry Fonda, Henry Haggman and Leonard Nimoy. The actually up-to-date Fonda plays a forcibly-retired probation officer who gangs up with some of his former parolees to rob a heavily armed convey of several million dollars.
9.00 News read by Kenneth Kendall.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: *Le Corbusier: Villa Savoye*, 7.05 Man-made Macromolecules. 7.30 The study of drawings. Closedown at 7.55.
8.00 Supervisors. Staying on Top in the title of this last programme in the series for Supervisors in Industry (r). Interval at 10.55.
11.00 Play School. Today's story for the under-fives is The King Who Liked Chocolate. Eclair by Julia Michaels and the presenters are Sarah Long and Johnny Ball. Closedown at 12.25.
2.00 pm You and Me. For the very young (r).
2.15 Wimbledon 81. Live coverage of the first round matches in the Ladies' Singles Championship being played on the Centre and Number One courts introduced by Harry Carpenter.
7.30 News. A sub-edited synopsis for the hard-of-hearing.
7.40 Images of War. Three cameramen recall their experiences of filming action at sea.
8.00 International Dressage from Goodwood House. Commentary by Dorian Williams and John Larrigan on the Inglewood Championships which have attracted riders from all over Europe and Canada as well as Britain.
8.30 The Theatre Quiz. Two teams of four theatrical back ground compete against each other to see which of them knows the most about their

Thames

9.30 am For Schools: Simple mathematics; 9.47 What we see when the tide goes down; 10.04 How to write a report; 10.30 The movement of immigrant labour; 11.05 Mathematics for seven to nine-year-olds; 11.30 The job of a health visitor; 11.39 An interview with Peter Bain.
12.00 Paperplay. Susan Stranks shows her friends how to make jar decorations (r). 12.10 pm Pippins (r). 12.30 The Sullivan. Drama serial about an Australian family during World War Two.
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 About Britain. Brent Sadler reports from Weston-super-Mare on how the local council attracts holidaymakers despite the risk of rainy weather. 2.00 After Noon Plus. A Summer Season. The prose and comic losing weight (r). 2.45 The Spoils of War. The final episode in the serial about how two Northern families come to terms with life after the Second

Regions

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RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 News.
6.30 Morning Concert: *Nicolaï, Mozart, Mendelssohn*, records.
9.00 News.
9.05 Tuesday Call: 01-580 4411.
10.00 New Day.
10.05 From Our Own Correspondent.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: *Just a Question of Luck*.
11.00 News.
11.05 Thirty-Minute Theatre: *Almost a Trillion*.
11.20 News.
12.20 Down Your Way.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.05 The Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 A Dance to the Music of Time.
4.00 Other People's Radio.
4.30 The Golden Hour.
5.00 News.
5.05 Brain of Britain 1981.
5.10 News.
5.15 The Archers.
5.20 The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy.
5.30 Children of the Dead End.
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